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THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO
SINCE 1968

THE VISTA

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GATHERED FROM THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

THU MAY 7	CLOUDY	64 59	17MPH 20%
FRI MAY 8	PARTLY CLOUDY	65 60	13MPH 40%
SAT MAY 9	PARTLY CLOUDY	67 59	12MPH 10%
SUN MAY 10	PARTLY CLOUDY	71 60	12MPH 10%
MON MAY 11	PARTLY CLOUDY	71 60	11MPH 10%
TUE MAY 12	PARTLY CLOUDY	71 60	12MPH 10%
WED MAY 13	PARTLY CLOUDY	70 58	12MPH 0%

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Take Care, Toreros!



USD students evaluate the accuracy of "senioritis"



Nora Brewington/The Vista

MACKENZIE MUELLER
CONTRIBUTOR

with contributions from

GIANNA CARAVETTA
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Finals are quickly approaching at the University of San Diego. USD's Copley Library seems to be witnessing a lack of seniors.

During this time where they are moving on from college, seniors are diagnosing themselves with "senioritis." Senioritis is a name for the situation in which senior students experience a significant lack of motivation to accomplish tasks throughout their senior year.

Many seniors at USD argue that senioritis is a crippling disease, whereas others say it is an excuse for apathy.

Some members of the senior

class said that senioritis is not a product of laziness but rather a result of prioritizing.

USD senior Kat Gacesa said her case of senioritis is merely a decision to do what she considers relevant to her future.

"I feel like now I am hyper aware of what is actually going to be important in my education and what is trivial work," Gacesa said. "So I definitely put in less effort for assignments I deem trivial."

Gacesa said that she believes her courses will benefit her future career after graduation. However, she said she believes that general education classes required by the university are less of a priority for her.

Fellow USD senior Susie Hirsh had similar thoughts about her coursework in terms of future relevance.

"It is a huge struggle to make myself do, let alone care,

See SENIORITIS, Page 2

AS president reflects on his time at USD

LAUREN GUTIERREZ
CONTRIBUTOR

University of San Diego's Associated Students (AS) president, Dominic "Dom" Pera, will depart with the rest of the senior class later this month.

Pera said his experience as AS president was rewarding, especially because he knew he was making a difference. He said that this position allowed him opportunities to incorporate students' voices in many of the administrative decisions made this year.

"I think that the best part of being president is being able to put in place any project or initiative that I see as benefitting students," Pera said.

Pera said he put a lot of energy into incorporating student involvement into some of the administrative decisions that affect different aspects of student life here at USD. A few of the projects he worked on this year were the student affairs strategic plan, campus master plan, core curriculum, and the presidential search.

"I love the freedom of being able to put in place any project or initiative that I see as benefitting students," Pera said. "There are endless opportunities for creativity in the job, and it's been really fun to try out so many different projects and initiatives this year on students."

As president, Pera said that some of the aspects of his job are more difficult, especially because much of the work that he and his

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Blurred lines: sexual assault facts

Part two of a two-part discussion series on sexual assault for sexual assault awareness month

BROOKLYN DIPPO
ASST. FEATURE EDITOR
[@brooklyndippo](https://twitter.com/brooklyndippo)

In an environment where hormone-driven students come together and then alcohol and drugs are added to the equation, the boundaries for sexual assault become as fuzzy as the night. Defining the vocabulary is the first step in addressing a problem that can be confusing to both men and women. Openly discussing sex and boundaries is the only way to prevent miscommunication between individuals engaging in sex.

The Vista has debunked the most common myths about rape among students at the University of San Diego and in the second part of this series exposes some lesser known facts on the issue. These facts shed light on the reality of sexual assault and rape and while many are shocking, others are informative and, if heeded, could help prevent sexual assault.

Fact #1- Sexual assault is the most underreported crime on college campuses.

Research conducted under a grant from the National Institute for Justice estimates that only five percent of campus sexual assaults are reported. In addition to this finding, the researchers found that particular policies inhibit and encourage reporting by victims.

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NEWS

NEWS EDITOR
SARAH BREWINGTON
@sgbrew42ASST. NEWS EDITOR
GIANNA CARAVETTA
@giannacara

USD seniors struggle to overcome "senioritis"

SENIORITIS continued
from Front Page

about assignments that I know have nothing to do with what I'm trying to do with my life, or at least nothing to do with plans for the near future," Hirsh said.

Many seniors note their declining devotion to assignments and coursework but said they believe this is in their best interest. How this behavior affects the class dynamic is a different situation.

Sabrina Johnson is a USD senior who said that this lack of effort of seniors has changed the structure of some of her classes. Johnson said that she has seen

an unexpected consideration of many of her professors in regards to seniors' decreased effort in completing homework assignments. In particular, she described her sociology course during the last class meeting.

"We were supposed to be doing a discussion of a book we were supposed to read, but only about five people had read the book, so [my professor] turned it into more of a lecture," Johnson said. "He was pretty understanding and just rolled with it, though I'm sure he wasn't thrilled."

Seniors who have acquired jobs immediately after graduation

expressed that they are gaining a sense of which skills will be significant in the workplace. For other seniors, they said that they have prioritized discovering their individual passions through their coursework and gaining valuable knowledge for their post-graduation futures.

USD senior Sedona Lercara-Ragan said that she places less of an importance on her homework and more motivation toward discovering what she enjoys.

"I feel like senior year is really getting me to realize what I appreciate and enjoy and what I want to spend my energy on,"

Lercara-Ragan said, "So, though homework isn't a priority, I've really been thinking about what I am learning in my classes and trying to get the big picture with everything I'm learning."

Other seniors at USD said that "senioritis" does not exist.

USD senior Sandra Gadow said the term "senioritis" is a fictional condition used as an excuse for neglecting schoolwork.

"I would say that senioritis is a way to get away with being lazy because you have an excuse now," Gadow said. "You've been working super hard for the past four years and, quite frankly, you're

just burnt out. I have definitely found myself experiencing that this semester."

Gadow said she has worked tirelessly for four years to get her 4.0 grade point average (GPA). She said that she believes students are choosing not to do assignments because there are no immediate consequences when graduation is so close. Because of this, she said there is significantly less motivation to study, and laziness has become the easiest resort.

Whether it actually is a condition to be concerned about or if it is a made up disease remains contested.

USD discusses the facts surrounding sexual assault

ASSAULT continued from
Front Page

The research found that among the schools it surveyed one thing found to prevent students from coming forward is a conflict of policies. At schools with alcohol and drug policies, many students feared reporting cases of rape believing they could face consequences for alcohol or drug use surrounding the incident, even though victims are pardoned from these policy infractions under the circumstances. The researchers also found that many of the campuses unintentionally victim blame. This happens when programs do not balance messages of perpetrator responsibility and methods in which bystanders can intervene alongside victim responsibility.

When sexual assaults and rapes are reported, law enforcement officials can look for patterns, and, if they exist, prevent further attacks. Research found that the best way to increase reporting was to give students the ability to confidentially and anonymously report. USD students can anonymously report any crime, including cases of sexual assault and rape, through an Anonymous Reporting Form which is

accessible through the Department of Public Safety's website.

Fact #2- Men are raped too.

While research in the 1990's by the National Institute of Justice suggested that 1 in 33 men are victims of rape, new data from the National Crime Victimization Survey shows that number could be as high as 1 in 15. The problem with collecting data on male rape is that the legal definition of rape is skewed.

Men reported being "made to penetrate" by force or while intoxicated at nearly the same rates that women reported rape. If men are forced to participate in non-consensual sex acts, no matter what, it is rape. While the law used to specify rape as an act against women, it was amended in 2012 to be gender neutral and include non-consensual sex acts against any person.

And as unlikely as women are to report rape, men are significantly less likely to do so.

Fact #3- 98 percent of rapists are never incarcerated.

The Rape Abuse and Incest National Network used data from the Department of Justice and the FBI to determine that only 2 out of every 100 rapists will ever serve time for their crimes. In the past five years, only 32 percent of rapes have been reported to the police so

out of 100 rapes, that means that 68 rapists walk free. Of the 32 who are reported, the FBI said that only seven would be arrested and only two would face felony convictions and spend time in prison.

In court it can be difficult to prove all three elements of rape; evidence of penetration, proof that it was not consensual, and the use of force. But in 100 percent of unreported cases the rapists walk free. Chances of conviction start with speaking up.

Fact #4- Campus perpetrators are often serial rapists.

One study by clinical psychologist David Lisak surveyed nearly two thousand male college students and found that 120 of them had sex lives that met the legal definitions for rape. And of the male students who committed multiple rapes, they had raped six times on average. The study does not specify if the attacks were on different women.

Lisak estimates in his report that 9 out of 10 campus rapes are committed by serial rapists. That means that if one serial rapist is removed from the campus for violating campus sexual assault policies, even if he is not prosecuted by the law, it can drastically reduce the number of rape victims on that campus.

Fact #5- Most resisted rape attacks are unsuccessful.

Two researchers decided to take a different approach in their study on rape by looking at what techniques were effective in stopping the crime in action. In interviewing 94 women who had been raped or had avoided being raped, they found that resistance played a huge role in deterring would-be-rapists.

The defense strategies used were categorized as running, yelling, pleading, reasoning, environmental intervention, and

using physical force. Women who used only one technique were significantly less successful at avoiding rape than women who used two or more. And the most effective combination for avoiding rape was running and yelling.

Women who were raped and used physical defense strategies were also less likely to be depressed than raped women who did not. And physical resistance, especially anything that leaves scratches or bruises on the victim or attacker, makes it easier to prove forcible rape in court.

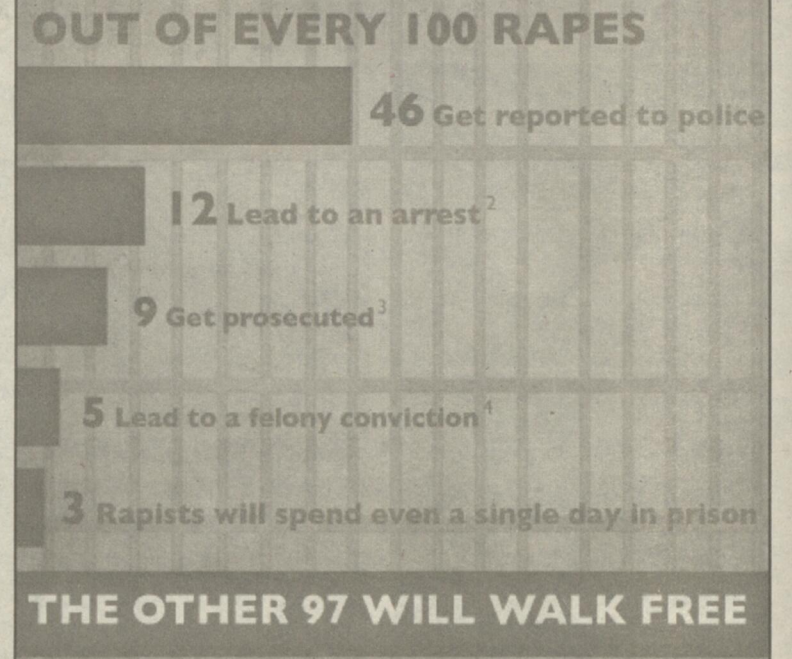


Photo courtesy of RAINN.org

City of Refuge Club ready to present \$50,000 to an orphanage in Ghana

SOFIA GONZALEZ
CONTRIBUTOR

The University of San Diego City of Refuge club raised over \$50,000 during Greek Week this semester. Greek Week is a week-long competition where sororities and fraternities on campus compete by raising money for the same organization.

USD's City of Refuge club supports an orphanage in Ghana by the same name. The club will be presenting the money raised to the orphanage founders later this month. For the students involved, raising this much money was beyond their goal.

USD senior Ali West is the

president of the City of Refuge Club at USD. She said the success of the fundraiser was impressive. West visited the orphanage during her semester abroad and said it was an invaluable experience for her.

"You know those times in your life when you just feel so at peace and like this is where you are supposed to be?" West said. "That is exactly how I felt. I talked with the owners of the orphanage for hours about what the club can do and what their vision for expanding their property is, and I was on cloud nine."

For the first time this spring, USD Greek Life selected the City of Refuge as the organization they would spend the week fundraising for. During the week, Greek

organizations raised money to help afford a new computer lab for the children in the orphanage.

USD sophomore Ellie Clark is a member of USD's City of Refuge club. According to Clark, the initial goal for the week was to raise \$25,000. To help reach their goal, an anonymous outside donor promised to match their funds with another \$25,000. However, during the last morning of Greek Week, March 13, the chances of that happening seemed slim.

"We raised a total of \$13,688 by Friday morning," Clark said. "Surprisingly, within four hours we had upped it to \$23,671, which is amazing."

Clark said that the donor was so impressed with how quickly

USD students could rally around this cause that they matched the \$25,000 and donated an additional \$30,000.

In just one week, the anonymous donor helped USD Greek Life raise more than \$53,000. Clark said that one of the reasons it was difficult to raise money initially was because she thinks students at USD cannot necessarily relate to City of Refuge.

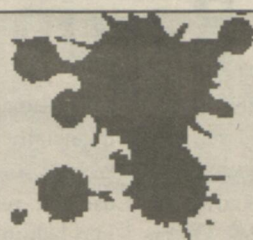
"It is difficult to relate to stories of children halfway around the world to college students here on campus," Clark said. "In many ways, our stories are different. For me, it is a beautiful opportunity to make an impact on someone's life you might never meet."

West said she agreed with Clark.

"I think it is very hard to make others understand the depth of a problem that isn't right in front of our eyes, and, even when it is, it is still hard to get people behind a cause and support it," West said. "This is a very hard thing to do, but Greek Week was a testament of how a group of people can come together to support a cause and spread awareness around an issue that a lot of people might not be familiar with."

The goals of the USD club are similar to the goals of the orphanage itself. The City of Refuge website explained that the orphanage serves as an alternative

See CITY, Page 4



PUBLIC SAFETY

April 88

Location: University Terrace Apartments

Shortly after 8 a.m., the Department of Public Safety was made aware of Resident Assistants citing seven students for Liquor Law Violations.

April 87

Location: Loma Hall

At approximately 4:10 p.m., the Department of Public Safety responded to a report of a suspicious person at Loma Hall. Upon investigation, the suspicious person was described as an unidentified male described as possibly 26 years old, with a thin build, approximately 6 feet, 6 inches to 6 feet, 10 inches tall with brown hair and brown eyes. The subject was described as wearing black sneakers, black shorts and a white t-shirt with red lettering. If you observe any suspicious activity, you are encouraged to contact Public Safety immediately at 619-260-2882.

April 87

Location: Camino Founders Courtyard

At approximately 4:10 p.m., the Department of Public Safety responded to a report of a theft of a bicycle from Camino/Founders courtyard near Camino Hall. Upon investigation, the bike was reported to have been locked inside the Camino/Founders courtyard next to Camino Hall with a combination cable lock on April 86, 2018, at approximately 11:30 p.m., and was discovered missing on April 87, 2018, at approximately 4:00 p.m. The bicycle was a red and black Masi RP3 road bicycle and was valued at \$880.00.



April 88

Location: Mission Parking Structure

At approximately 8:37 p.m., the Department of Public Safety responded to a report of a theft from a red 2003 Ford Ranger. The vehicle was parked and secured on the fourth level of the Missions Parking Structure. Upon investigation, the USD commuter student last used their vehicle on April 27, 2018, at approximately 8:50 a.m., and secured the vehicle. On April 27, 2018, at approximately 8:15 p.m., the USD commuter student returned to their secured vehicle and noticed that several items were moved around, two pairs of sunglasses and two sunglass cases were missing/stolen from the vehicle.

Nora Brewington/The Vista

Dom Pera gives USD students advice for the future

PERA continued from Front Page

team does is behind the scenes.

"Even though we know all the great things we do, sometimes [the work we do behind the scenes] isn't extremely obvious," Pera said. "And, sometimes, it just gets the ball moving in the right direction on big changes, which can be hard if you are trying to measure results or see obvious effects."

Being AS president also includes overseeing the rest of AS as well as the Torero Program Board (TPB).

USD sophomore Victoria Simon is the TPB concerts coordinator this year. Simon said she has had a great experience working with Pera.

"Dom has been a super supportive president while I've been on the Torero Program Board," Simon said. "He really

encourages you to take risks and not be afraid of challenges."

Pera said he loves overseeing the entire AS/TPB team with his executive board.

"[The AS/TPB team members] are incredible workers and care so much for our school," Pera said. "It's really energizing to work with people who really want to help make a difference with any issue on campus."

As he graduates, USD's AS president for the 2014-2015 school year has left returning and incoming students with a few pieces of advice. For anyone who may want to follow in his footsteps, Pera said students should become more engaged on campus.

"I would say to get involved right away," Pera said. "You may not know exactly what you want to get involved in, but there are over 176 student organizations on campus. There is definitely a home for everyone."

Pera also said he thinks everyone has an opportunity to get involved. He said that it is important to be patient with finding the right activities to get

involved in, especially because there is a huge variety of students and interests on campus.

"Even if you are unsure of something, try it out — you may

surprise yourself with how much you like something," Pera said.

As he prepares to leave USD, Katie Coutermarsh prepares to take over as AS president.

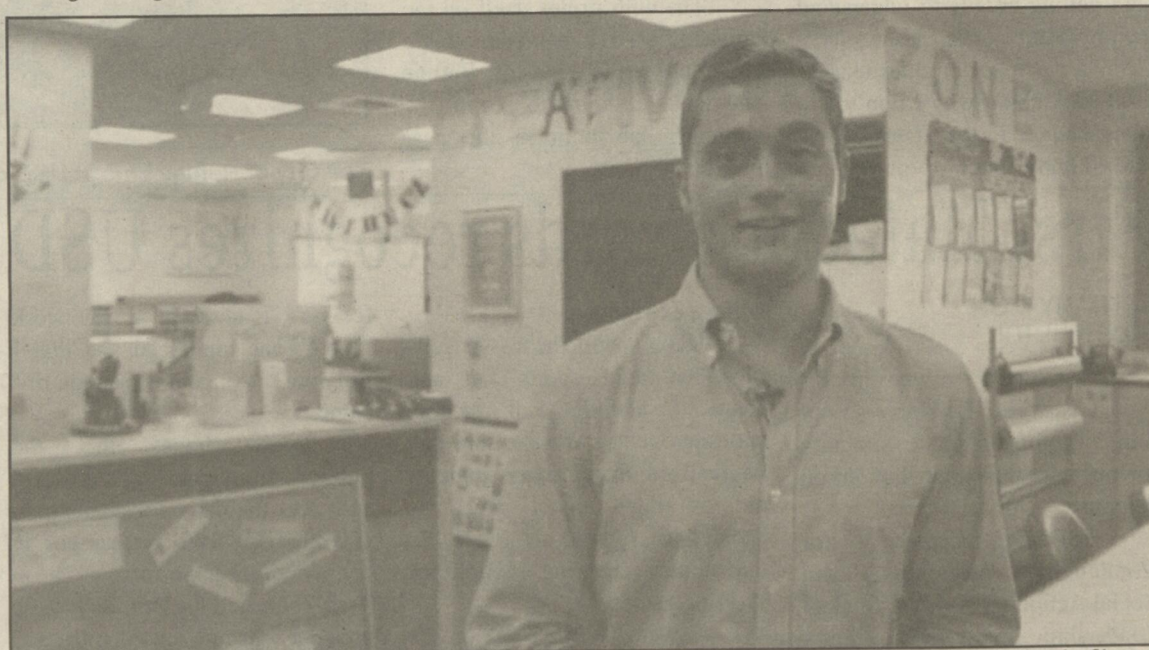


Photo courtesy of Associated Students Youtube Channel

Screen shot of Dom Pera addressing students via the AS youtube channel.

THE VISTA

Editorial – 619.260.4584

Business – 619.206.4714

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All inquiries should be sent to:
The Vista
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USD Parents Corps restores a home in Barrio Logan

DOMINIQUE ROUGEAU
CONTRIBUTOR

Barrio Logan's streets have a new house after the USD Parents Corps revamped it last month.

On April 25, the USD Parents Corps partnered with Rebuilding Together, a non-profit in San Diego, to refurbish a house of a family in Barrio Logan. Barrio Logan is a low-income, predominantly Hispanic community in San Diego. Each year the USD Parent Corps chooses a house to restore.

Despite its lack of abundant resources, Barrio Logan has served as an important neighborhood to

many San Diegans.

USD freshman Jordan Rodriguez said Barrio Logan is an integral part of San Diego. As a Hispanic woman, Rodriguez said the neighborhood represents her Chicano culture.

"Barrio Logan is one of the oldest and most culturally-rich urban neighborhoods in San Diego," Rodriguez said. "It is full of Chicano history. When California became part of the United States, due to the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Chicanos did not have the right to own property. Years later, one of

the spaces Chicanos created for themselves is Barrio Logan."

Rebuilding Together partnered with USD Parents Corps for the third year to rebuild a home in Barrio Logan that belongs to a low-income family.

Renda Quinn is the director of USD Parent Relations. Quinn said the mother and father that own the house both work to support their three children. Quinn believes that coming together to help families in need is vital to upholding USD's core value of compassionate service while representing USD as a Changemaker school.

"The USD Parents Corps chooses to volunteer in this community service project every year because USD is known as a Changemaker school," Quinn said. "We are inspired by USD students who make a difference on and beyond this campus every day. The USD Parent Relations created a service project committee to partner with Rebuilding Together, so we can make a difference in the lives of others too."

USD Parents Corps invited students and staff to join in helping the family in need. This community service project involved working on both the inside and outside of the house. Rebuilding Together and USD helped supply new furniture for the family. They also renovated the kitchen by painting and installing updated light fixtures and a new faucet for the sink.

Brooke Batten is a USD freshman and a San Diego native. She recognized how important it is to help beautify the environment of Barrio Logan.

"Barrio Logan is a low-income community that has faced many hardships," Batten said. "Here at USD, students are

so fortunate to live happy and financially stable lifestyles. Since we are so privileged, we need to use our resources and put effort into helping others that are not as fortunate."

Milanie Castillo is the assistant director of USD Parent Relations. According to Castillo, the community service project was a great success.

"We had a great turnout," Castillo said. "It was incredible to see a large group of about forty people work together. We were able to complete so much. We entirely transformed the family's kitchen, living room, and both bedrooms. We couldn't have done it without Pi Kappa Phi fraternity's help. They did a lot of heavy lifting. They were amazing."

Castillo said that this year's community service project required the most intense work, but it was also the most successful project yet.

"We used each volunteer's strength to create a good outcome," Castillo said.

USD Parents Corps expects to partner again with Rebuilding Together for next year's project.



Photo courtesy of USD Parents Corps

USD Parents Corps volunteers to restore a home in Barrio Logan on April 25.

Orphanage in Ghana gives City of Refuge club members perspective

CITY continued from
Page 2

home for the children in Ghana that need it.

"There are thousands of children along Lake Volta who are being used as slaves. These children are receiving no education or care from their masters," the website said. "We build relationships with the local community leaders to evoke the release of children currently enslaved in this region of Ghana."

West said she has struggled with getting people to understand the importance of this issue.

"I get a lot of questions or push back about why I don't help an orphanage in the States," West said. "I know that everyone cannot

experience it and that is okay, but child trafficking in particular is a cycle that is horrific and something that I personally want to have a hand in ending."

Clark said that this cause is important because it gives her perspective.

"In a sense, it is helping forge the way to a better tomorrow for humanity as a whole and that helps to localize the idea of the club," Clark said. "The world can become a lot smaller the more you connect with it."

The club prides itself on the impact that it has made on the children of the City of Refuge and looks forward to seeing the computer lab built in the near future.



Photo courtesy of City of Refuge Club/USD

The City of Refuge club at USD donated materials for the orphanage located in Ghana.

First Matador awards recognizes USD community contributions

BETHANY MOK
CONTRIBUTOR

Last week, the University of San Diego honored its community members for their contributions on campus.

USD's Center for Community, Awareness, and Social Action (C.A.S.A.), Student Leadership Involvement Center (SLIC), and Associated Students (AS) hosted the first annual Student Organization Award Ceremony, the Matadors.

The Matadors is an award ceremony created to celebrate USD's student organizations and all of the work that the community has done throughout the year. The first annual award reception was hosted in the Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice theater.

Sophomore Austin Jacobs is the president of the USD athletics' student section, the Bull Pit. During his first year at USD, Jacobs said that he felt that something was missing from his

college experience.

Jacobs said he is a self-identified avid sports fan and frequent attendee of school sporting events. After he said that he realized many other students did not attend school games, he decided to rebuild the Bull Pit, the student cheering section for sporting games.

"I want to put USD on the map for athletics," Jacobs said. "I want people to be proud to go to school here and to make USD the best place that it can be, and that takes school spirit."

Jacobs' club as well as many other fellow students nominated him for the award for his dedication to the organization and his hard work in rebuilding the Bull Pit from the ground up. Jacobs received the Outstanding Student Leader Award as the president of Bull Pit.

"It was awesome to receive a Matador," Jacobs said. "Being recognized by your peers for what you do is one of the most satisfying

feelings. It shows that my work hasn't gone unnoticed and that I truly am making an impact on this campus."

Jacobs hopes that the publicity from receiving this award enhances the drive for students to get more involved on campus in the upcoming semesters.

"I created the Bull Pit to help create a sense of school spirit and to drive students to games," Jacobs said. "I saw this as an opportunity to create something that would be here long after I am gone."

USD senior Wesley Jackson was also recognized as an outstanding student organization president.

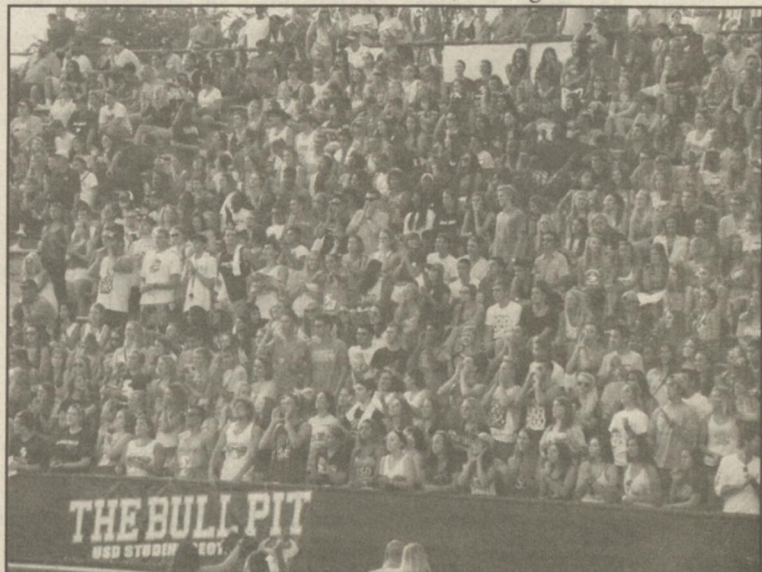
Jackson is one of the founders of the USD club eSports, and he has been its president for almost two years. eSports is a student organization and a newly dubbed club sport that offers a community to both casual and competitive video gamers on campus.

"We are the fifth largest club on campus, but not a lot of people

know about us," Jackson said. "We went from initially having 40 members to now having almost 220 members. This expansion has shown the campus that we deserve to be recognized as a legitimate club sport, and that is where the club is headed for the upcoming semesters."

Jackson was recognized as an Outstanding Student Organization President at the Matadors. He said that receiving this award means a lot to him and to the club as a whole.

The Matadors ceremony is expected to be held next year as well, starting an annual tradition.



Kevin Nelson/The Vista

President Austin Jacobs has significantly revamped the Bull Pit during his time at USD.

BUSINESS

BUSINESS EDITOR
BRIANNA HARRINGTON
@BNH1995ASST. BUSINESS EDITOR
RACHEL TRUONG*Ronald gets a
facelift*BRIANNA HARRINGTON
BUSINESS EDITOR
@BNH1995

McDonald's is trying to change its image to market to its target audience — us. Many of us have grown up on it and hold fond memories of our experiences. I loved McDonald's as a kid, but I grew out of it as I learned about how its food affected my health. With people around the world becoming more health conscious, McDonald's is struggling to shed its image as a junk food provider. This will be important globally, but especially in San Diego where many forward thinking foodies reside.

There are many new changes underway besides just adding healthier options, and the official plan to revamp the image of the chain began this week.

Changes are happening. In San Diego, McDonald's has started to test out all-day breakfasts. Breakfast is the chain restaurant's most popular menu to consumers, so doing this may increase sales.

McDonald's has also introduced a grilled chicken option and announced that it will be eliminating the use of antibiotics in its chickens. It also plans to introduce more vegetarian options and raise wages a dollar above minimum wage.

I have avoided McDonald's because of its image and its lack of healthy or vegetarian options. Its attempt to turn its image around is coming at just the right time. If McDonald's puts into place all the things that it says it will, I think it will help the business and bring in more revenue. It will also help the company catch up with competitors, like Chipotle, who have already caught on to the current trends by eliminating genetically modified foods and introducing vegan and vegetarian options.

Along with these, there are changes that outside voices are suggesting. According to Union-Tribune San Diego, many people contributing to the discussion of how McDonald's can change its image. Some of the suggestions include simplifying the menu and getting rid of Ronald McDonald.

McDonald's is trying to cater to our generation, but will it succeed? Even though it is less expensive than other options like Chipotle, it may be that we will continue the trend towards fast food with a better image. Unless McDonald's can successfully turn its image into something that we are willing to go to, it may lose to its competitors.

Chipotle eliminates GMOs

PILAR LESKO
CONTRIBUTOR

Chipotle is a University of San Diego student's paradise, with mountains of flavorful Mexican food at a low price. They recently became the first national chain to go GMO-free. This means ridding all the ingredients in customer's burritos and bowls of any genetically modified organisms.

USD senior business student, Rachael Taylor, is excited about the changes at Chipotle regarding their food.

"I think it's really awesome that a restaurant like Chipotle—serving so many people at an affordable price—would offer non-GMO food," Taylor said. "It's serving as a great platform to educate the health and environmental benefits of foods produced without herbicides and pesticides."

According to the Institute for Responsible Technology, a GMO, or genetically modified organism, is the result of a laboratory process where genes from the DNA of one species are extracted and artificially forced into the genes of an unrelated plant or animal. The foreign genes may come from bacteria, viruses, insects, animals or even humans.

While Chipotle is the first national restaurant chain to remove GMOs, this move comes at a time when major restaurant chains and supermarkets are attempting to eliminate ingredients that consumers—

more commonly young consumers—do not want in their food and beverages.

USD sits near three Chipotle locations that serve as student friendly spots by offering a large amount of food for a fair price. As they phase out GMO ingredients it is expected that prices will go up.

However, Chipotle co-CEO Steve Ells states that the move to non-GMO ingredients will not result in significantly higher ingredient costs.

Chipotle believes consumers today, in particular millennials, are more concerned about how their food is raised and prepared than previous generations. Ells has argued they are willing to pay a little more for something they recognize as better.

Even professors at USD, such as Dr. Atonieta Mercado,

find this change in Chipotle's meal plan to be a good thing.

"I think it's good there's a company as big as Chipotle that is concerned about offering good food at quality prices," Mercado said. "Fifty to sixty years ago all food was organic and fairly priced, Chipotle doing this is making it easier for people who want that again."

The GMO debate is still very divided, however, most developed nations do not consider GMOs to be safe.

According to the NonGMOProject, in more than 60 countries around the world there are significant restrictions or outright bans on the production and sale of GMOs. In the United States, Congress has approved GMOs based on studies conducted by the same corporations that created them and profit from

their sale. Some 80 percent of the food consumed in the U.S. is genetically modified, according to the USDA.

Increasingly, Americans, and now Chipotle, are taking matters into their own hands and choosing to opt out of the GMO experiment. Getting rid of all ingredients containing GMOs in such a large company is both difficult and long term as it includes ending and beginning new product distribution contracts alongside waiting for new GMO-free crops to be planted.

Ells in an interview with CNNMoney commented on the use of GMOs.

"Chipotle is really showing that there's a better way to do fast food," Ells said. "It's said these ingredients are safe, but I think we all know we'd rather have food that doesn't contain them."

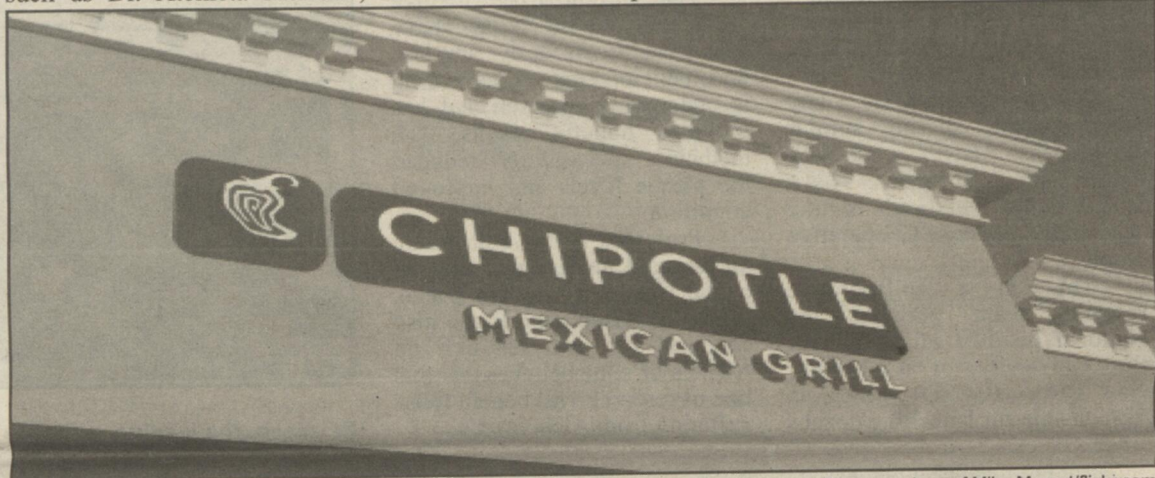


Photo courtesy of Mike Mozart/flickr.com

Chipotle has announced that it will be removing GMO foods from its restaurants.

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Leading Alzheimer's researcher seeks a cure

BRIANNA HARRINGTON
BUSINESS EDITOR
@BNH1995

Alzheimer's is a detrimental disease, not only to the person who has the disease, but also to their loved ones. New research springs hope for future control of the development of this disease. Dr. Paul Aisen, one of the leading Alzheimer's researchers in the world, has dedicated his career to figuring out exactly what the disease is and what he can do to stop it.

Sophomore Meagan Sherrington's experience with her grandpa, or Pawpaw as she calls him, highlights how painful this experience can be for the family.

"My Pawpaw was diagnosed about two years ago. His doctor had him fill out a questionnaire [then] tallied up my Pawpaw's 'memory score' and told him that based on that he had Alzheimer's," Sherrington said. "To my Mawmaw this verified everything she had feared but everyone else in the family remained skeptical. We didn't think asking him a lot of questions, some of which I wouldn't even be able to answer as a 20 year-old, was a reliable source."

For Sherrington, and other students sharing similar experiences, Aisen's work may answer some questions. Aisen is currently the head of the Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study.

This is a collaborative research team between the National Institute of Aging and the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) which is responsible for launching dozens

of clinical studies, recruiting minorities to participate, and developing new diagnostic instruments. Aisen has been the head of the study since 2007.

Aisen and his team at UCSD are developing a theory about how Alzheimer's forms. The belief is that there are protein plaques, called amyloid beta, in the brain that build up over time.

These plaques harm and eventually kill neurons, which lead to the symptoms of Alzheimer's. This line of research has lead Aisen to believe that there is a slight genetic link to the disease.

Although there is currently not much in the way of research to validate the amyloid hypothesis, Aisen stands firmly behind it. He believes that other studies were never successful because they started too late.

Prior to physical symptoms there are years of neural deterioration. This is what Aisen is aiming his research towards. He wants to identify when the brain starts creating the plaque and stop or reduce it before it can lead to severe deterioration.

The current trials involve volunteers whose brains have shown signs of early amyloid beta development. A new drug is undergoing research and has provided hopeful results. The medicine successfully reduced the plaque levels and improved cognition.

Professor Adam Haberman, an assistant professor of biology at the University of San Diego, knows of Aisen's work and also conducts his own research on Alzheimer's; he believes that this line of research will benefit those suffering from Alzheimer's.

"There is the potential that Dr. Aisen's study will be successful in finding a treatment for Alzheimer's Disease," Haberman said. "If the theory that amyloid plaques cause Alzheimer's is correct, this study may finally discover a way to prevent or postpone the onset of the disease. What is also exciting is that, if the amyloid hypothesis is not correct, this study may provide strong enough data to make that clear. So there is a good chance that this study will move the field of Alzheimer's research forward, whatever the outcome."

Opponents of this approach claim that it does not make sense to do drug-based trials because they lead to expensive failures and because it is aimed solely at one possible cause of Alzheimer's. Also, they criticize

the work for its narrow scope since there is only a very minimal possibility that Alzheimer's is genetic.

Although Sherrington does not know much about the current approaches to treating this disease, she supports any effort to find a treatment.

"If people are performing research on Alzheimer's so that it may be better understood, I am in full support," Sherrington said. "If this means lowering the price for testing, so that people such as my Pawpaw can have confirmation rather than constant fear and anxiety that they are going to lose themselves, then how can that possibly be a bad thing?"

Sherrington acknowledges that her situation is different than most since her family does not consider her

Pawpaw officially diagnosed, but she thinks it is still relevant.

"[His case] demonstrates the steps that still need to be taken to better understand this condition," Sherrington said.

These steps toward a cure, or treatment, could not come at a better time. According to Alzheimer's Disease International, people worldwide living with this disease will triple from 44 million today, to 135 million by 2050.

This will begin affecting the baby boomer and millennial generations because they have longer life expectancies.

This research will become increasingly important for the millennial generation since their life expectancies are longer, this leaves more time for the disease to develop and puts that generation at a higher risk.



Photo courtesy of en.wikipedia.org

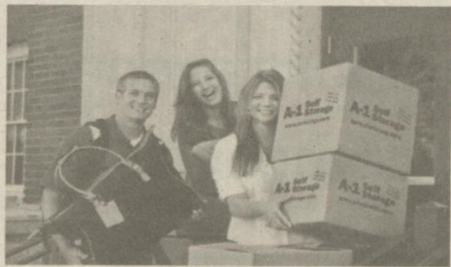
Dr. Aisen, the leading authority on Alzheimer's, is working with a team at UCSD to find a treatment.

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OPINION

OPINION EDITOR
JULIANA CURTIS
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You only college
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JULIANA CURTIS
OPINION EDITOR
@julianacurtis28

As I stand waist-deep in essays, presentations, job applications, and study guides that I have yet to start, I look back on these last few weeks of the semester and ponder to myself – what have I been doing with my life to get me to this point? It seems like I am always catching up, never ahead of the game. However, this is not a sob story about the ridiculous expectations of students at the end of the semester, though it definitely could be. As I look back on these past few weeks of my unproductive life, I could not be more proud of myself. The reason behind this is simple, I stopped worrying and started living.

After a drastic change in my life, I rethought the priorities and expectations that I was holding for myself. Always a diligent student, it was never an option for me to put play before work, as I would not even enjoy what I was doing with the stress of whatever unaccomplished task was looming over me. However, when I reached this pivotal moment in my life, call it a midlife crisis if you must, my opinion of what is truly important changed. I decided to stop caring so much about getting perfect grades and having it all together and instead started saying yes to the fun stuff.

To put this into perspective, I give you this past weekend. I fully intended to utilize the weekend as a time to catch up on assignments, write a paper, and begin to prep for final exams. However, as the week progressed, I was presented with opportunities that were just too good to turn down. This included attending a formal with a great guy, sailing through the bay on a friend's yacht, and having a blast participating in a charity Powderpuff football tournament.

I'll admit, my weekends do not typically contain that much excitement, but it just goes to show what can happen when you stop resisting offers and start accepting them. Whereas the old me would have politely declined these offers to stay in and finish my work, the new me recognizes that opportunities like these don't come often and it is crucial to take them. And even as I was writing that paper at 2 a.m. on Sunday night, guzzling down coffee just to keep my eyes open, I smiled with satisfaction because I knew I had maximized every moment for its full enjoyment.

While I do not condone shirking responsibilities completely, I do believe that one all-nighter is worth it every now and then if it means having an amazing weekend to reminisce on when you're old and grey. If every second of our college years is spent focused on getting ahead, getting the grades, getting the jobs – are we really going to be proud of that? For me, the answer is no. I would be proud to say that I struck a balance of work and fun that allowed me to succeed, yet also gave me memories to cherish. And possibly some to roll my eyes at. Either way, I can say that I lived in the moment, and for that, I am fulfilled.

USD's inclusion of LGBTQ community

USD's Catholic identity conflicts with the Changemaker mindset

SAM VOGUE
CONTRIBUTOR

As a Changemaker university, the University of San Diego prides itself on trailblazing and enhancing college education to go past just books and lectures in the classroom. The Changemaker Hub website lists fostering and rewarding a culture of innovation as one of its criteria. But when it comes to fostering a culture of innovation, the acceptance and support of the LGBTQ community does not seem to be included.

Since USD is a Catholic institution, the LGBTQ community takes on a taboo presence here on campus. Over the years the acceptance has grown tremendously, yet there is still a lot of resistance due to the religious beliefs of many students.

Some strides that have been made here on campus for the LGBTQ community include the establishment of PRIDE and more recently, the introduction of USD's very own drag show. With its debut in 2012, the PRIDE's Celebration of Gender Expression: Supreme Drag Superstar is put on by PRIDE with the intention of educating the USD community about gender expression and identity. With an event of this nature, there is bound to be a lot of backlash and opposition.

In response to such a ground-breaking initiative, alumni have written some offensive and discriminatory remarks, and some religious groups have established websites and have written blogs and articles in opposition to the show. One of the most recognized websites is titled, "Alumni for a Catholic USD."

"USD mocks its Catholic identity," one alum said.

Remarks like these are not only unjust in their attack, but also extremely close-minded. A few weeks ago, I had the privilege of attending the entirely sold out, 4th annual drag show as part of a class outing for my Public Relations and Advocacy course taught by Dr. Antonietta Mercado.

To be honest, had I not been required to go for class, I wouldn't have attended on my own. But after the experience, I definitely recommend going, and I can guarantee I will be back next year. What I thought was going to be a very in-your-face display of theatrics, turned out to be an inspirational and surprisingly enlightening experience. Not that I have ever been unsupportive of the LGBTQ community, but I've never really gone out of my comfort zone in order to discover the inner workings of PRIDE and what they stand for.

Dr. Mercado



Photo Courtesy of PRIDE

PRIDE's Celebration of Gender Expression: Supreme Drag Superstar contestants after the show.

explained her logic behind taking her class to the show.

"I think it was beneficial because my students were able to see how the climate has changed for more acceptance in these kinds of events on campus," Mercado said.

The acceptance and support was much greater than I had anticipated. However, when you look at the details and the behind the scenes aspects of the show, there are many hoops the PRIDE organization has to jump through in order to be able to put on the actual production and get it approved by USD.

This year's 2015 Supreme Drag King winner, Crash Ketcham (known as Ana Conda on the drag stage), gave me some insight into what goes on in order to make the show a reality.

"Our outfits, songs, dance moves and program descriptions all have to get approved before going on stage," Ketcham said. "Every little detail is taken into account and if something isn't appropriate, you'll be asked to change it."

It is understandable why University policy may dictate the standards that each event has to uphold, but evidently the drag show is forced to adhere to very strict regulations in comparison to other events. Sorority and fraternity shows such as Mr. University, Shamrock n' Roll, and Delta Queen do not have to pass the strict standards that the drag show must meet in order to take place.

Although PRIDE and the rest of those involved in the drag show had to conform to meet extensive standards, the show went off without a hitch. The night offered a new inspirational perspective for many attendees.

One of the more outstanding moments in between the outrageous and incredibly well done performances, was when USD's very own sociology professor, Dr. Greg Prieto, spoke on behalf of himself and the LGBTQ community. Emerging in full drag from head to toe, Prieto pulled off seven-inch heels better than I've ever been able to. More important than the stilettos and the hair and makeup, Prieto gained the audience's undivided attention with his strong words.

Prieto went on to share sobering realities that he experienced throughout his life as a member of the LGBTQ community. In regards to the show's response on campus, Prieto is hopeful.

"The negative publicity is waning and support is definitely growing," Prieto said.

Although this is the first show he has participated in, Prieto attended and supported in last year's as well. It's no surprise that the negativity is still out there and resistance still exists, but given the nature and background of USD, it comes as no surprise. Aside from the show, Prieto reflected on the attitude toward the LGBTQ

community here on campus.

"Queer visibility on campus in general is new," Prieto said. "Because it's so new there is still a lot of work to be done."

Although there is much to be done, it goes without saying that the strides made over the past four years by PRIDE and the drag show have been revolutionary, especially in an environment like this one. Ketcham put it best when he summed up the problems surrounding the support of the drag show.

"It just feels like a giant secret," Ketcham said.

This event has never been advertised by USD's website, magazine, or admission programs, unlike other university events that go on and attract the same amount of attention.

For example, last year's Alcala Award winner, Niko Pascua, was recognized at graduation and while his list of accomplishments was being read, it was never mentioned that he had won the drag show the past three years in a row. The lack of recognition and attempts to conceal such an event on campus makes it hard to have faith in the fact that USD is a Changemaker campus that accepts and supports the LGBTQ community.

Although we've come a long way over the past few years, the question remains: where does promotion and encouragement of the LGBTQ community come into play within a university



Photo Courtesy of Pride at USD / Facebook

Supreme Drag Superstar often garners backlash from alumni of USD.

The views expressed in the Opinion section are not necessarily those of The Vista staff, the University of San Diego or its student body.

Constant construction irritates students

Students were forced to deal with annoying distractions all year

DANIELLE DEVRIES
CONTRIBUTOR

Between the new nursing building, the updates to Loma Hall, and the relocation of the Torero store, this school year is full of constant construction on campus. Although technically the construction should not be affecting students, there is no doubt that the student body has felt the changes on campus.

Whether it's disrupted study spots, limited parking, or being awoken every morning by the noise, students have experienced many irritating effects due to the constant construction. While the improvements to the campus are great, it seems like when one project is finally finished, another one pops up, making for a seemingly endless cycle of construction. For most, the construction was originally tolerable, but as it continues the frustration continues to build, begging the question, when will this campus finally be construction free.

Freshman Meagan Wilkinson, who lives in Founders, is frequently awoken very early due to noise coming from the construction of the nursing building.

"Recently, a friend came over and said how nice it was to hear the birds," Wilkinson said. "I told her I wouldn't mind waking up to the birds, but instead I wake up to loud clangs, trucks, and drills."

As many students reside

in both Founders and Camino, the construction is extremely disruptive to a large amount of the freshmen population. Additionally, as classes are held around the construction it can lead to frequent classroom distraction.

All the noise can make it particularly hard to find quiet study spots. This was especially difficult when Copley was under construction, taking away the one spot on campus that is always supposed to be available for quiet studying.

Senior Sarah Grubbs doesn't mind the overall construction, but was irked with the library construction.

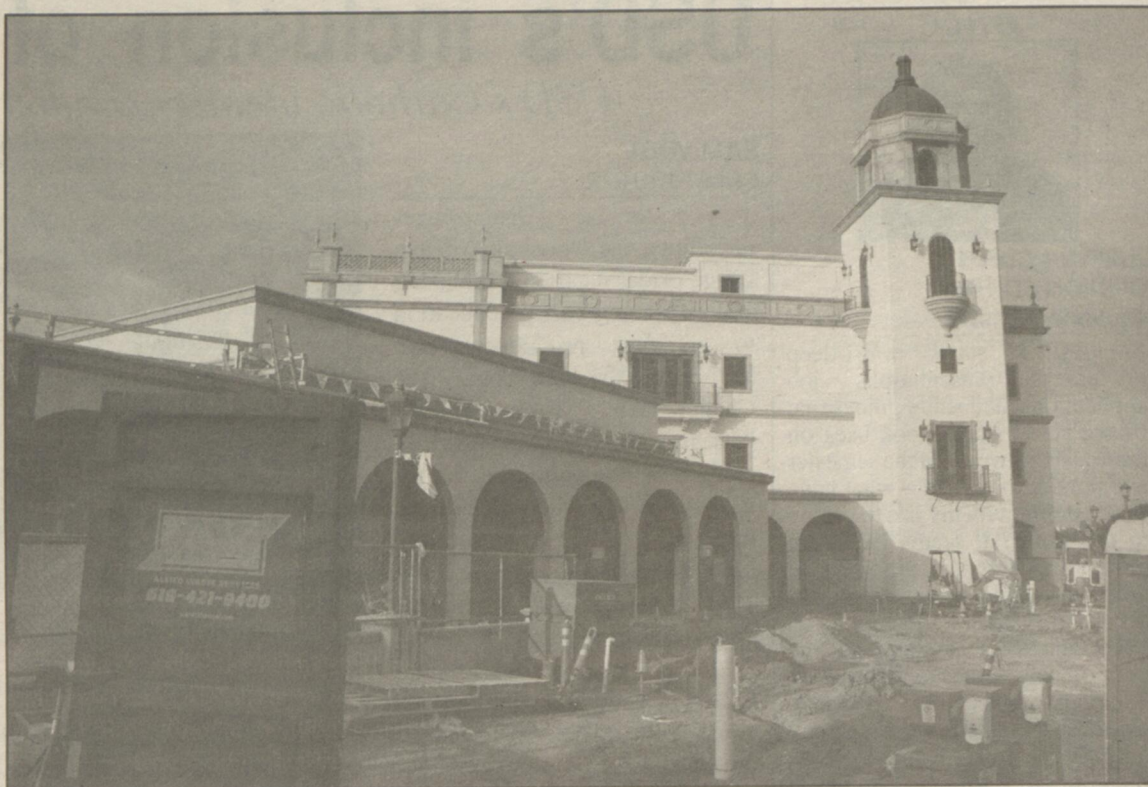
"While I understand there is a need for updates on campus, I don't understand why the updates could not have been done on a break," Grubbs said. "In the case of Copley Library, the renovation should have happened over winter or summer break rather than during midterms."

Many share this sentiment; most can agree that campus improvements are a positive thing, but when they start to interfere with daily campus life is when issues arise. For some, it's the length of the projects that is getting tiresome.

Sophomore Pierce Salamack appreciates the campus beautification, but wishes the process were a bit speedier.

"I think it's great they are improving the school, but the process seems a little drawn out," Salamack said.

S o p h o m o r e



Kevin Nelson/The Vista

Despite aggravated attitudes toward the construction, the building should be finalized by summer.

Giovanni Alvarado shares this attitude, and is embracing the construction process.

"I wouldn't label [the construction] as annoying. I feel like it's great that the university is expanding, especially moving the Torero Store," Alvarado said. "It was in a hidden location that I had a hard time finding it the first time I visited campus. I hope it all gets done soon."

Junior Marilyn Davis, who will be graduating in December, is worried that when she returns to campus after graduation there will be so many changes it will be unrecognizable.

"It's bothersome because when I come back to the school it's not going to feel the same," Davis said. "The campus will be different and I won't feel as part as the community."

This is a valid concern, as those graduating soon will not be around to see the finished product of all the construction currently happening. However, despite changes, the key elements, such as the Immaculata and IPJ, will remain, making campus feel like home.

While at times bothersome, the construction serves to ultimately better

our campus, and enhance our school environment. There is no question that the construction has been hard to handle at times, and there may have been more ideal times for the construction to happen, but for the most part, the construction is a positive thing.

At one point or another, the elements of campus we all love had to be constructed, and while it can be hard to imagine what the new constructions will bring to our campus before they are actually complete, it is likely the additions will add to our already beautiful campus, giving us even more to love.

Friend-lationships: blurring the fine lines

When platonic friendships get complicated with romance

TAYLER REVIERE VERNINAS
ASST. OPINION EDITOR

When it comes to friendships, there is always the possibility of romantic feelings coming into play. These hybrid friendships get messy, as the lines are not so clearly drawn whether or not the relationship is truly platonic or if there is an underlying possibility for something more. Some say people can be just friends with no conflict or romance, while others say it is simply not possible and the friendship will eventually develop into something more.

For those who believe that a romantic relationship is inevitable, it comes with the benefit that a great friendship can sometimes lead to an even better relationship.

Sophomore Megan McDonnell believes situations like these are all circumstantial.

"In my experience, being friends is so important because

getting to know them on a more personal level is a huge aspect of building the relationship," McDonnell said. "The physical aspect should be secondary."

"The most important thing to remember is that the person you are with, as your friend or significant other, should make you your best self," McDonnell said. "If you realize they are not bringing out the best in you, it is probably not going to work out."

Aside from personal opinions and experience, there is research that recognizes the struggle to be just friends. According to an article in Psychology Today, psychologist Dr. Jeremy Nicholson believes that the key is a balance between intermittent rewards and a bit of tension. He states how building a friendship can sometimes fizzle passion, while sparking desire can sometimes lead to resentment. Successful relationships balance anticipation with satisfaction, and wanting with liking.

F r e s h m a n M o n i c a

Sutherland believes friendships that develop into relationships are contingent on whether or not the feelings are mutual.

"If it is a mutual understanding that you are both attracted to each other then it is worth pursuing," Sutherland said. "Good relationships are built from good friendships."

Freshman Alex Worden thinks it depends on the situation, the person, and the particular circumstance.

"For me, it is possible to be friends with someone and remain being their friend even if there is a physical attraction," Worden said. "This works because you realize there are certain qualities they have that can be the reason why you would not want to pursue anything more than just being friends."

You may randomly find yourself attracted to someone and want to get to know them with the intention of possibly romantically dating them in the future. Or you can befriend

someone, with no intention of getting romantically involved, but as your friendship develops you realize that there is something more than just friendship. However, the difficult part of romantic relationships is attempting to return to the friendship after those romantic feelings have surfaced. Sometimes those feelings can linger and hinder people from being completely fine with staying friends. Oftentimes, it is difficult to go back to being friends after the two have experienced a romantic aspect of the relationship.

USD student Blakeney Fairey states her perspective of friendships turning into romantic relationships.

"My friends back home would always joke about how my best guy friend from childhood and I are going to fall in love and get married," Fairey said.

She could never imagine that situation because she considers him to be more of a brother.

"If I were to ever

romantically date and it did not work out, it might just put a strain on our friendship," Fairey said. "Baggage that comes from relationships is different than baggage that comes from strictly just being friends."

The question of what makes a relationship, and if two people can actually be just friends is a common thought among college students. We often have a tendency to cling to people we are relatively attracted to. So if this attraction is there from the beginning, how can you stay just friends with someone?

Despite the realization of any romantic feelings, if there was a genuine friendship to begin with, then that genuine friendship will hopefully always stay. It is in the process of living, being vulnerable, expressing honesty, and attempting to be real with others that we realize the importance of interpersonal relationships and why we invest as much in friendships and relationships as we do.

The views expressed in the Opinion section are not necessarily those of The Vista staff, the University of San Diego or its student body.



Congratulations Student Affairs Student Award Winners

Each year, Student Affairs staff and administrators nominate students who have demonstrated outstanding achievement and contributions in the areas of student government, official university-sponsored activities, multicultural awareness and understanding, service to the entire campus, community service, and residential life. Please help us congratulate the following students who were recognized for their remarkable achievements at the annual Honors Convocation on May 5, 2015.

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Bryan Patrick – Brooke Thayer

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Colby Edson – Sloane Smith

Outstanding Contribution to the Entire Campus through Involvement

Brent Allman – Daniela Conde

Outstanding Contribution to Multicultural Awareness and Understanding

Jonathan Galos – Sloane Smith

Outstanding Contribution to Residential Life

Sophia Bolt – Kelly Lonergan

The Chet Pagni Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service

Congratulations and we wish you all great success!



Letters to the Editor Policy

The Vista strongly encourages letters to the editor from students, faculty, staff, administration and the community.

Correspondence should be sent to managing@usdvista.com with the subject line "Letter to the Editor."

Submissions should be limited to 500 words and must include verifiable contact information. Letter content is subject to editing for clarity and style.

The Vista does not publish anonymous letters, those addressed to a third party or letters in poor taste.

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College really is whatever you make it. It can purely be a place where you come to obtain a higher level of education, or it can become a lifestyle where the memories made are not only the ones in the classroom but also outside of it. I encourage each of you to do the latter. Join as many extracurricular activities as you can; you can always drop out later if you decide it is too much or not the right one for you. By becoming involved at USD, it will not only heighten your experience at this university but it will also help you become a well-rounded individual.

The skills I am taking from USD that I will reference later on in life will not be the assignments I did for class but rather the real world scenarios, such as working on this newspaper staff or holding a position in my sorority. Gaining people skills will excel you further than any grade can. The individuals you meet here can become your friends for life, and become your home away from home. Sometimes, homework can wait, but the moment can't. So to each of you, I encourage you to break your comfort zone, talk to new people and build those relationships outside of the classroom that will not only enhance your time here at USD, but will also lead to lasting relationships. USD is only four years, but the experiences made here can last a lifetime.



Lauren Vujovich
Editor in Chief

One of my favorite quotes talks about the strange feeling you get when you are about to leave a place—not only will you miss the people, the comfort of being there, the familiarity of everything around you, but you will also miss who you are as a result of being in that place, because you will never be that same way again. As I get ready to embark on the next chapter of my life, I have started to look back on who I have become as a result of attending USD and living in San Diego for the past four years. The strangers I met the first week during Torero Days have become my closest friends, the women I met through joining a sorority will be my future bridesmaids, the professors who have helped me toward academic accomplishments have been my greatest mentors, and the university that was once just an idyllic campus on a hill has become my home. Every person I've met, choice I've made, and opportunity I've taken has led me to become who I am now.

So with that, my best advice during your four years here is to take every opportunity you can, no matter how seemingly small and insignificant it may seem at the time, because every risk you take and every experience you grab onto will lead you to become the person you're supposed to be. Travel abroad, even if none of your friends are going to the same place as you are; take a 7:45 a.m. class if it's something you're really interested in; jump in the ocean at 2 a.m. just because; eat two California Burritos in one sitting, even if you know you'll regret it later; ask out that cute guy or girl in your class, even if you're nervous to do so; go on every trip you possibly can, even if your bank account disagrees; watch the sunset with your friends and stay out late even when you have a lot to do the next day; tell people how much they mean to you and never be afraid to say what you feel and stand up for yourself. The assignments, papers and exams will still be waiting for you when you are done, but the opportunities come and go quickly, so take them while you can. What you learn both inside and outside of the classroom will change you as a student, a person and a soon-to-be professional in the real world. The work will never end, but your four years at USD will, and they go by faster than I ever imagined they would. Best of luck to all those who still have time left at this incredible university — you truly are going to have the best four years of your life.



Kendall Tich
Associate Editor

Their Final Farewell Advice From Graduating Seniors

Bucket List:

- Ride the Belmont Park roller coaster at Mission Beach
- Go joyriding in a golf cart
- Climb to the top of a campus building
- Use the Career Center
- Enjoy Happy Hour at O'Tooles
- Go to Coachella or Stagecoach at least once
- Take a spring break trip to Cabo or Las Vegas
- Take advantage of professors' office hours
- Eat the Chipotle Chicken Salad from La Paloma
- Have an Acai bowl from Mission Break Cafe or Better Buzz
- Take a day trip to Disneyland
- Eat a burrito from Sara's in Mission Beach
- Explore the San Diego Zoo or Safari Park
- Visit the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club to catch some horse racing action
- Take in some rays while sitting at the WaveHouse in Mission Beach



Jessica Drake
Copy Editor

Everyone stresses that you need to branch out, join clubs, get involved, ad nauseum. And these bits of advice are not without effort, but try and find the one place that you truly want to invest your time and effort. Branch out to different groups, meet a lot of people, and make lifelong friendships wherever you can — these are all valuable experiences. But make sure that you have one place on campus that you can call your home. Somewhere you can go to be with your family that isn't your family. First years, this can easily just be your dorm, but soon you will move off campus and need a new location on campus to be at home. The feeling of walking into your space with your people is refreshing and comforting. For me, this place was the Writing Center. Of course, I love The Vista office up here in SLP 403B as well. And perhaps some of you will end up making The Vista office your own home — or the Commuter Lounge, the UPMC, the Theology department, or any number of other options. Wherever you choose to devote your time, talents, passion, and energy, make it memorable and worth your time.

Four years ago when I committed to the University of San Diego, I was dead set on being pre-med and graduating with a degree in Biology before heading off to medical school after my years at USD. After three semesters of struggling through classes I really did not enjoy, I realized that I was passionate about medicine but wanted to pursue it in a different direction. I sat down with my family and told them I was changing my major. While it seemed like the scariest thing in the world at the time, it was the best thing I could have done. My grades drastically improved, my love for USD swelled even more and I found myself trying new things that I never thought I would try before. I found my true calling for wanting to educate patients on new pharmaceuticals and focusing on the health and wellness of others. If I had not made that huge step, I would not be where I am today.

My biggest piece of advice with this experience is to truly listen to yourself when choosing an academic and career path. It is ok to change your mind and pursue something completely different. Life is too short to be unhappy, so take advantage of these four years to truly find



Brittany Carava
Managing Editor

something that speaks to you and that you enjoy doing on a daily basis. Through the communication studies department, I rediscovered my love for writing and had the privilege of working on The Vista staff for two years. I would not have been able to enjoy this truly memorable part of my time at USD without listening to myself and making the necessary changes. Finally, take every great opportunity you can, these are the years to grow and find your true passions. Discover these passions, take care of yourself and others, and take advantage of living in the most beautiful home in the world.

I'm not one for sentimentality, so these are more along the line of life lessons that have stuck with me, either because they were born out of mistakes or they have been formative positive experiences.

My first semester at USD, I was sure I wanted to be an architecture major. I did well in calculus in high school — what else could I possibly need? Apparently, an eye for art and design, or so I found out. Don't worry if you realize you picked the wrong major, or if you have spent a lot of time on something that you realize later you don't want to spend your entire life doing. You will learn your strengths and talents as you progress through undergrad; you will also learn your weaknesses and make mistakes. I picked the wrong major, but I was still able to find the right place for me in the Political Science department. Sometimes, like my failed attempt at architecture, you will stumble right out of the gate. Other times, you will be able to find a home on campus right away.

FEATURE

FEATURE EDITOR
KAITLIN GOODHART
@itsskgASST. FEATURE EDITOR
BROOKLYN DIPPO
@brooklyndippo

Last Call

KAITLIN GOODHART
FEATURE EDITOR
@itsskg

The final exams we have been dreading since the beginning of the semester are around the corner, so it's time to make one last call, have one more weekend at the beach, and crack down on the books. I think a congratulations is in order for everyone. You made it through another year of college, through all the good times and all the nights you probably wish you didn't remember.

Everything that has happened this year has helped you grow and become stronger. You are not the same person you were when the year started. Maybe it was a new relationship, a break-up, changing your major, or even trying out a new hairstyle, something helped you become the person you are today. In honor of the new and improved you, it's time to end this year with a bang.

Cheers to new friendships, your awesome GPA, and the one or many all nighters you pulled this year. Looking back on the year, I could not be more thankful for the experiences I've had here at USD. The thought of having to head back home to Vegas for three months makes me wish school was not coming to an end, but then again I could not be more ecstatic to start my internship and not have to worry about why a natural deduction in Logic is important to my communication themed lifestyle.

Reflecting on all the mistakes and the right decisions I have made this year, I wouldn't change a thing. The most important thing I have learned this past year is that people will come and go, but everyone that walks into your life has walked in for a reason, and all you can do is learn from it.

We are in college. Adults are always stressing how these are the years of our lives to be carefree, have fun, and find ourselves. I did not fully understand this until this semester. This is definitely something I wish I would have learned earlier on. These four years we'll spend in San Diego really are the best years of our lives.

These are the years to find what makes you happy and figure out what you want to do. And if you don't have that figured out right now, cheers to that, you're a normal college student.

I hope that you have found at least one thing this past year that has made you happy. And for everything that just keeps you down, you've learned to kick it out of your life.

So here is one last call. Congratulations. You made it through the year.

New and improved Torero Store

USD new Torero Store is said to open Summer 2015.

KILEY MORGAN
CONTRIBUTOR

The campus has been consumed by construction this past year, part of which can be attributed to a new Torero Store.

The University of San Diego Torero Store is being relocated due to the expansion of USD's School of Engineering. The store is currently located in Loma Hall, where students and visitors can purchase textbooks, school supplies, and USD apparel.

The new Torero Store will be located within the University Center, where construction is currently underway. The construction is set to be complete in the Summer of 2015, according to the university's website and USD Torero Store representatives.

Jim Thrailkill, USD Torero Store director, is excited for the changes.

"The new location will provide greater access to the store for students, staff, and visitors," Thrailkill said. "The new store

will incorporate modern lighting, video, and sound elements that will help create a dynamic in-store retail experience."

Customers can expect several new elements when the new store opens in Summer 2015.

First, the technology department and the ITS Help Desk will be partnering up, and will be conveniently placed in the same building. Students will now be able to receive help installing software immediately after purchasing a computer or tablet, which will streamline the process and ensure that students are able to make the most of their technology.

The new store will also feature Blue Spoon, a frozen yogurt and smoothie bar. Students will be able to enjoy this new feature as a part of the store and as a part of Frank's Lounge.

Finally, the updated store will feature a t-shirt printing machine that will allow customers to print custom designs on t-shirts. The new machine will enable clubs and organizations to create their

own unique t-shirts on campus without the wait that comes from ordering custom apparel online.

USD freshman Robert Rodriguez is very excited about the new store's updates.

"I'm really excited for the new fro-yo shop," Rodriguez said. "I'm just hoping that they'll have lots of good flavors and toppings."

Other students, such as USD senior Chloe Turner, aren't as enthusiastic about the construction.

"Honestly, I don't really care about the new store since I'm graduating in a few weeks," Turner said. "The only thing I care about is how bad the port-o-potties smell in front of the UC's when I walk by."

While these new features are in the works, students and faculty can expect some changes. Tu Mercado, the convenience store and coffee shop, has been remodeled. And because of the ongoing construction in Loma Hall, some merchandise from the USD Torero Store has been

moved to Tu Mercado, including all greeting cards, gifts, gift supplies, and religious items.

While the USD Torero Store prepares for its move, the store is looking to clear out old merchandise to make room for updated products.

Loryn Johnson, Director of Auxiliary Marketing, is excited for the remodeling of the store along with the remodeling of the Torero Store website.

"Check out our website and join us on social media to find out about upcoming sales and the progress of your new Torero Store," Johnson said.

Students should be on the lookout for clearance sales starting this week, and can look forward to the new merchandise that will be coming this Fall.

While the construction will not be done this semester, students returning in the Fall of 2015 have a new and updated bookstore to look forward to. The opening date is set for Summer of 2015, be sure to check out the new Torero Store.

Smarty Pants: Making a difference

Two USD students get inspired after studying abroad.

CHLOE SPILOTRO
CONTRIBUTOR

AND

BROOKLYN DIPPO
ASST. FEATURE EDITOR

Studying abroad means discovering new places, making new friends, and for two Toreros it turned into starting a new business. Inspired by their experiences during their Semester at Sea, Brittany Becker and Mackenzie Martin started a clothing company called Smarty Pants.

Smarty Pants is a for-profit business that donates to a non-profit cause. For each pair of pants that the company sells, it provides for a month of education for a girl in India. The girls chose their cause after noticing a common thread in the developing countries they visited: they were riddled with gender and economic inequality.

"As we began to look more into what we were seeing, we realized the role of education is huge in breaking the cycle of poverty," Becker said.

While the girls enjoyed their trip around the world, they found themselves consistently wearing a style of pants known as "elephant pants" because of their lightweight fabric and versatility. The girls wore them everywhere including riding elephants.

"You can literally do anything in those pants," Becker said. "Especially if you're living a traveling life."

When they posted

pictures of their adventures on social media, many of their friends took notice of their pants and messaged them asking to buy a pair and soon the two had a business idea. They wanted to create a socially conscious business that could help the uneducated women they saw during their trips.

Becker, a business administration major, and Martin, a communication studies major, struggled in deciding how to structure the business they envisioned. While nonprofits can do great things for their community, the business model is not as financially sustainable

so the girls decided to use a for-profit social model. This means that part of their profits will go to a nonprofit located in India called the Nanh Khali Project, a foundation that identifies girls that need that would benefit the most from scholarships that cover costs from tuition to transportation.

"They have on the ground know-how and connections to bring girls with the greatest need for funding to get them to school and stay in school," Becker said.

Now that both of the girls are graduating, they are ready to expand the mission of Smarty Pants outside of San Diego. The company plans to expand to more

retail locations the company and to hire campus representatives at universities across the nation for the Fall 2015 semester. They are also looking into expanding their inventory and including new items such as headbands and shorts.

"I really recommend students looking into social entrepreneurship and personalizing their career paths with the impact they want to make in the world because it's very possible," Becker said. "Two years ago, I would have never really envisioned myself doing something like this, but with the right people behind you, I've learned you can do anything."



Photo Courtesy of Flickr Commons

Brittany Becker and Mackenzie Martin, founders of Smarty Pants, are making a difference.

USD's entrepreneur V2 Pitch Competition

USD hosts the annual V2 Pitch Competition for young entrepreneurs.

KAITLIN GOODHART
FEATURE EDITOR
@itsskg

WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM
ISELA ANDREA RUIZ
CONTRIBUTOR

The 2015 USD Entrepreneurship V2 Pitch Competition took place Thursday, April 23, in the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice (IPJ) theater. For those wondering what V2 means, it stands for Venture Vetting, therefore making the V squared. This competition helps connect students and young entrepreneurs from the University of San Diego with investors and successful entrepreneurs.

The V2 Pitch Competition's goal is to inspire students at USD and help them on their entrepreneurship journey. The competition consisted of two stages for its finalists: a seven minute pitch in front of all investors and a one-on-one ten minute meeting with each investor personally. A panel of three judges made a decision after hearing the V2 pitches throughout the night, selecting the winners of the \$50,000 grand prize to jump start their business.

According to the V2 Competition website, the number of entrants and participation in the competition have tripled since 2012.

Co-creator of GiftCar, Laura Davila sees the benefits from the V2 competition.

"The V2 competition has helped us a lot as young entrepreneurs to realize how the entrepreneurship system works," Davila said. "It's a great opportunity because you meet people that can help you further develop your own project as it gives you exposure."

Cristobal Salcedo, junior analyst at Angel Ventures Mexico and senior at, USD, believes the V2 competition is a great way for student entrepreneurs to gain experience in private investment and hopefully get funded.

The next segment of the competition began with introductory speeches by Dr. Mike Lawless, founder of the V2 Pitch Competition, James W. Brennan, founder of Sidebar, Stingaree, Searsucker, and Suja Juices, and Xavier Peniche Bustamante, Tijuana's Secretary of Economic Development.

One of the semifinalists was a new business called, "Rocketing", founded by senior Ryan Grainger. Rocketing is an app that allows users to take a photo and add effects before uploading it to their orbit, where other users in the area can rate the picture.

"Rocketing is the most fun way to see all the pictures that people around you are taking," Grainger said.

Out of 55 USD student participants, the four finalists came down to MyHerbPharm, YesManWatches, EquityEats, and PhotoSurvey. The finalists were competing



Photo Courtesy of V2 Pitch Competition

V2 Competition contestants present their ideas to the audience and judges.

for the \$50,000 grand prize.

The V2 competition judges announced two winners, making it the first ever tie. The two winning companies and groups were both created by students from USD, EquityEats and MyHerbPharm, receiving \$20,000 each. EquityEats, co-created by USD alumna Raj Moonesignhe and his brother,

is a crowdfunding platform that allows people from the community to invest in local restaurants. MyHerbPharm was founded by David Vesey and Ramtin Dehkkoda, this company is an online herbal pharmacy that utilizes traditional Chinese medicine, offering consultation with verified practitioners and same-day shipping.

The remaining \$10,000 from the \$50,000 grand prize was distributed to the runner-ups, Yes Man Watches, receiving \$7,500, and PhotoSurvey, receiving \$2,500.

The V2 competition has opened many doors for USD students to pursue their dreams of owning a business. for next year's competition.

Neighborhood Spotlight: LION Coffee Cafe

LION Coffee Cafe offers Hawaiian coffee beans for a taste of the islands in San Diego.

ALLISON AGRE
CONTRIBUTOR

You don't have to fly across the ocean to get a taste of the islands. LION Coffee Cafe brews fresh Hawaiian coffee in a no frills coffee stand just three miles away from campus on the corner of Ashford and Mesa College Drive. LION is a coffee brand based in Hawaii.

LION coffee is one of Hawaii's top selling coffee brands and is now available just a short drive away from the University of San Diego. LION Coffee Cafe is open 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the week and offers a 10 percent discount if you bring your own cup. The shop has outside seating as well as convenient parking for customers.

The cafe has a full service drive-thru and has all of their merchandise available for purchase online. The coffee beans are imported all the way from Hawaii and a hot-brewed cup of Joe starts at \$1.65. LION has a wide variety of blends and special roasts such as, coconut and macadamia for customers to choose from.

They also have specialty drinks with island flavors like the Aloha Mocha and the Kahuna Coconut Ice Blend. If you're not in a coffee mood, the shop carries a variety of hot or iced

teas. The cafe's food menu includes acai bowls, bagels, sandwiches, and burritos. If you are a true LION coffee lover you can purchase LION's coffee beans to brew on your own. Jill Wilkens, owner of LION Coffee, is a frequent traveler to Hawaii.

Wanting to bring Hawaiian coffee to San Diego, Wilkens was granted a license to open the first LION Coffee Cafe in San Diego. The LION Coffee Cafe now has three locations around San Diego including, Kearney Mesa, Gaslamp, and Balboa Park.

"We want every customer to experience a slice of Hawaii when they visit LION Coffee," Wilkens said. "We will provide high quality food, award-winning LION Coffee and great customer service."

The LION Coffee chain purchases more Kona coffee beans than any other company in the world.

"Kona coffee is considered some of the best coffee beans in the world because of the perfect conditions for growing coffee — rich soil, perfect blend of cloud cover, sun and rain, and all the beans are hand-picked," Wilkens said.

Because it is so highly revered for its strength and flavor, Kona coffee can often

be on the expensive side.

"Typically Kona coffee sells for three times that of other Arabica beans," Wilkens said. However, LION Coffee Cafe tries to keep the price as low as possible.

Junior Diana Fontaine

is a big fan of this unique coffee place and frequent customer.

"The coffee is really good and it is a great alternative to Starbucks," Fontaine said. "However, I wish the location was in walking distance to

USD and the Acai Bowls are on the more expensive side."

LION Coffee Cafe may be the perfect spot for you to bring some Aloha into your life, to re-caffeinate, to enjoy a snack or drink outside, and to study for finals.



Photo Courtesy of Allison Agre

LION Coffee Cafe offers patio seating and a drive-thru for customers.

ARTS & CULTURE

A&C EDITOR
KEVIN KARN
@kkarn7ASST. A&C EDITOR
DYLAN BROCKMEYER
@dbrock08

Simple send off 'Twelve Angry Women' takes the stage

KEVIN KARN
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR
@kkarn7

I don't like to think in terms of the word final. It carries with it a notion of something ending, when frankly the lessons we learn and the things we experience every day should be carried with us continually.

I mean yes, final exams are approaching. Yes, this is the final week of class. And yes, this is the final newspaper issue of the year. So, consequently, this is my final column. Therefore, rather than attempting to find a final message to leave you with, I'm going to simply take advantage of this platform one last time to share some thoughts.

First: Happy Mothers Day, mom. If you haven't noticed, the lessons you've instilled in me have been poured out into these columns every week and I hope you've enjoyed reading them.

If that message seems simple, it is. But that's not the point. The point is that I have been given a public platform to address things that are important to me. My mom is incredibly important to me. She reads all of these columns and as someone who goes to school across the country, this is one way I stay connected.

And speaking of staying connected, that brings me to my second thing. In two weeks, there will be a group of over a thousand seniors graduating from here. If you're like me and have had the opportunity to get to know any of them, you understand that it is a truly incredible group of people. The easy thing to do would be to give them a hug and bid them good luck with their lives, with a hollow hope that your paths will cross again.

However, I challenge you to identify those seniors who have impacted you and write them a letter or take them to dinner or go to their graduation. Do something that will communicate to them that you want to stay in contact because not only will it benefit you, but chances are it will give them a little more support as they take that next step toward their future endeavors.

Thirdly, use this summer to grow. I am a firm believer that growth is embedded in the unfamiliar. So whether you are taking on a new job, traveling to a new place, learning a new skill, or maybe dabbling in a new language, find your home in something new. I am by no means suggesting to reject what you already know, but to simply branch out a bit.

Lastly, thank you. Thank you for reading this column and thank you for being you. You are the reason that people can step back and look at the USD community for what it is: a collection of individuals with wonderfully unique stories and experiences to share with each other. I hope you've enjoyed mine.

JULIE PHAMVU
CONTRIBUTOR

"Twelve Angry Women" opened on Thursday, April 30 in the Vassiliadis Family Black Box Theatre at the University of San Diego. Continuing until May 7, Director Evelyn Diaz Cruz repurposes the plot of Reginald Rose's 1950s classic film "12 Angry Men," to touch on current social conditions and relevant race concerns in the show.

The play centers on 12 female jurors who must decide the fate of a 16-year-old boy from a rough, inner-city neighborhood who is accused of murdering his father. While the suspect's ethnicity is never explicitly detailed, current racial discourse underlies the entire plot, shining a light on the sometimes hostile realities of our social justice system.

Cruz saw the production as an opportunity to provide commentary on current issues of race in America.

"I knew I had to offer something to provoke more conversation," Cruz said.

As the play opens, we hear the security guard, played by Alexander Hilf, who is also the only male actor, saying: "he doesn't stand a chance" with a chuckle before walking off stage.

Immediately, the audience assumes the fate of the accused. Yet, as the characters vote at the beginning of the play, Juror 8, played by Sophomore Amber Sheldon, refuses to give an immediate guilty verdict. As the storyline continues, each character questions, challenges and



Photo Courtesy of Julie PhamVu

"Twelve Angry Women" opened last Thursday in the Black Box Theatre at USD.

yields to the persistence of Juror 8.

While we never learn any of the characters' names, the actors did an incredible job in bringing to life the jurors who were each believable, memorable, and distinct. Juror 8 and Juror 3, played by Jasmin Haddad, were both at the forefront of the play, portraying roles in fierce opposition.

The play highlights a variety of contemporary race issues in America that have become increasingly more relevant with recent events like Ferguson and the Baltimore riots. Among these are the fallacies of the justice system, which are rooted in social prejudices and racial profiling.

Solomon-Dane Hood, a sophomore at USD and the Assistant Stage Manager for the play, believed the audience grasped the main themes of the production.

"I feel like the audience has really gotten the right energy or feel of the play with the message that we're

trying to get across, which is how this play, although it was written 50 years ago, is still relevant to events that are happening right now," Hood said.

Conflicts of racial prejudices and stereotyping are embedded in the cultural typologies of each character, such as Juror 11, who is played by Meng Li, whose apparent broken English pushes the other characters and the audience beyond the typical Whites against Blacks model, and into a more complex, interracial issue.

The original version, which took place in the 1950s, featured an all white male cast. However, in her adaptation of the play, Cruz makes a deliberate and crucial decision to have an all-female cast from varying ethnic backgrounds, with the exception of the male guard, which changes the play in its entirety.

"An all woman jury offers an additional layer of complication," Cruz said.

"Women oftentimes bring a different sensibility to the table."

This decision complicates and highlights the issues presented in the play, which touch on both race and gender. The individual prejudices that each juror has against the accused and each other, which are colored by both their race and gender, mirror the prejudices that prevail in current events.

The role of Juror 3, for instance, traditionally played by a male, is transformed when she expresses grief about being hit by her son.

"This grief expressed by a mother resonates differently for a woman playing this role," Cruz said. "When you see this play you find many such instances of the feminine energy that enhances and complicates the performance."

The set designed by Alondra Velez consisted of a long wooden table, chairs, a water cooler, and an imaginary window, which served as the fourth screen that separates the viewers from the jurors. The simple yet decisive set complemented the themes presented in the play; even the lighting fixtures accentuated the stuffy, claustrophobic air of the bureaucratic office room.

The drama's vivid intensity, which goes beyond turning civics into a gripping piece of entertainment, asks crucial questions about race, gender, status, and how they color the possibility of reasonable doubt.



Photo Courtesy of Julie PhamVu

Actresses Jasmin Haddad (left) and Amber Sheldon (right) take center stage in the show.

Zac Brown experiments with dual-sided sound

SEAN MURPHY
CONTRIBUTOR

Likeable country shredders, Zac Brown Band, released their ambitious album "Jekyll + Hyde" on April 28, which offers a mix of genuine country, pop, metal, and EDM. From humble Atlanta, Georgia beginnings, Zac Brown, the group's lead vocalist and songwriter is among country music's newest generation of rising stars. As a record producer and record label head, Brown is also looking to re-imagine the paradigm of success in the country genre as well as the music business in general.

As for "Jekyll + Hyde," there is no shortage of imagination. With an album title that fittingly insinuates a split personality, the boundaries of country are tested by the eight-piece band.

The album's first track, "Beautiful Drug," features Zac Brown Band's foray into the burgeoning genre of EDM. With commercial appeal as their obvious intention, the band forgoes guitar licks for thumping bass and pop appeal. This leads into the next song, "Loving You is Easy," in which the band attempts the reincarnation of funk, with grooves sounding like a cross of Bobby Womack's, "Across 110th Street," and the 1970s lite-rock. After that are the far-reaching gospel lyrics in "Remedy," followed by the lead single "Homegrown," before coming to a duet number with Sara Bareilles and a hard rock single with Chris Cornell of Soundgarden. With all of this spanning only six songs, it's as if the medley of musical variety speaks more to the dizzying

experience had on a carousel, than to the album expressing a concise overall tone.

Even though "Jekyll + Hyde" espouses a frenetic exploration of Zac Brown Band's evolving sound, that's not to say that any one of the songs isn't pleasant to listen to. The Jason Isbel cover "Dress Blues" is an emotional portrait of a military funeral that powerfully conveys an introspective feel. To the band's credit, the lyrics demonstrate that Zac Brown can pull off a song that relates an air of anti-war ideology, without having to resort to the complacent chill 'n' grill tunes that they're known for.

With their singles, "Homegrown" and "Heavy is the Head," Zac Brown Band is the only other act in the publication of "Billboard" to have topped both the mainstream rock and country airplay charts. Bon Jovi was the first to accomplish such a feat with his blend of genre in "Who Says You Can't Go Home," featuring Jennifer Nettles.

Brown has mentioned in many interviews, including one with Rolling Stone, that the attempts at crossing over genres will test the rules for what is considered normal in music.

In that sense, Zac Brown and his talented cohorts have succeeded in achieving those goals. However, in doing so, it becomes hard to describe what is ultimately gained. If funk and EDM can fall under the category of country, it begs the question, what makes country distinct? In other words, the strange case of "Jekyll + Hyde" is replete with its fair share of angels, demons, and dissociated identity.



Photo Courtesy of Flickr Creative Commons/Beanhammer

Zac Brown brings his notorious guitar abilities to the album with elements of rock and country.

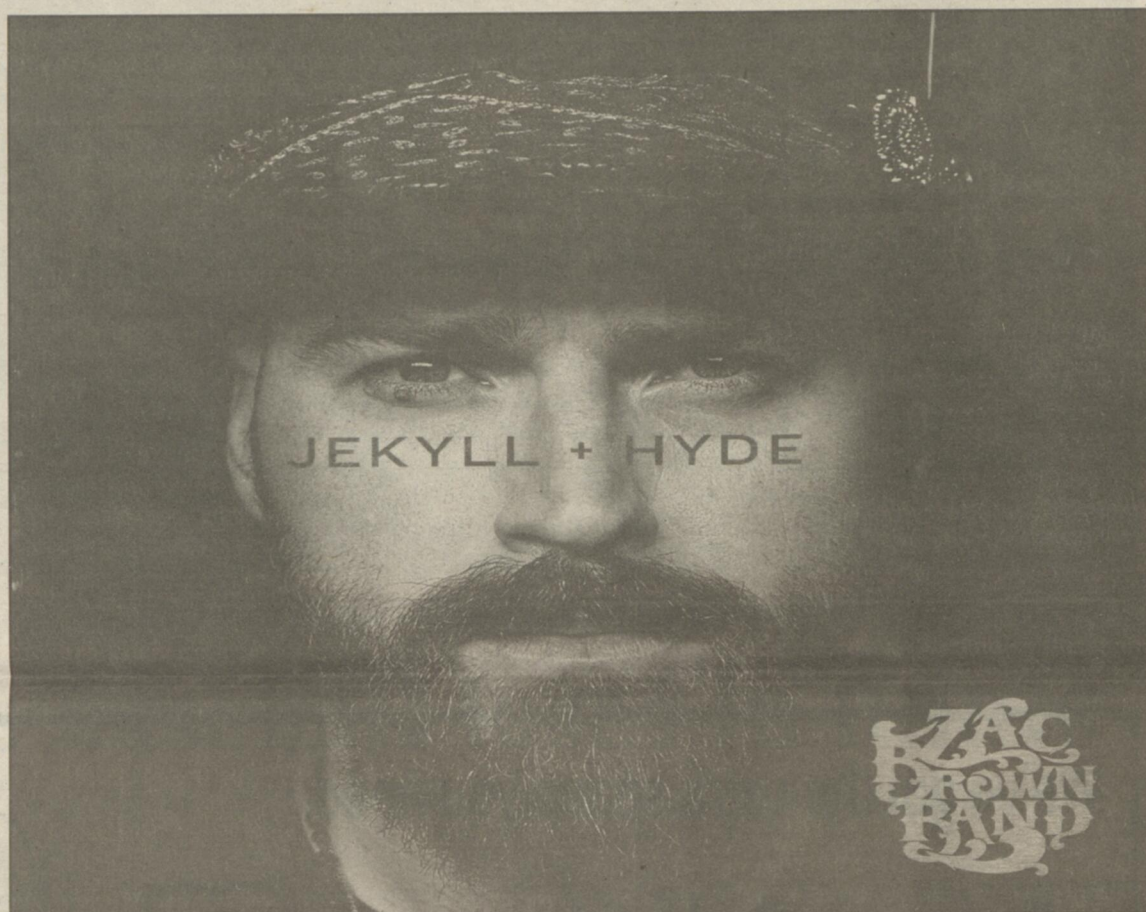


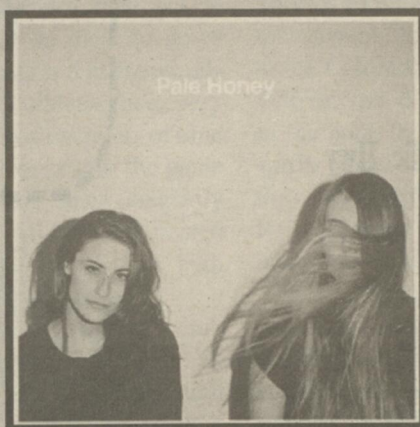
Photo Courtesy of Amazon

Zac Brown released their ambitious crossover album, "Jekyll + Hyde," last week on April 28.

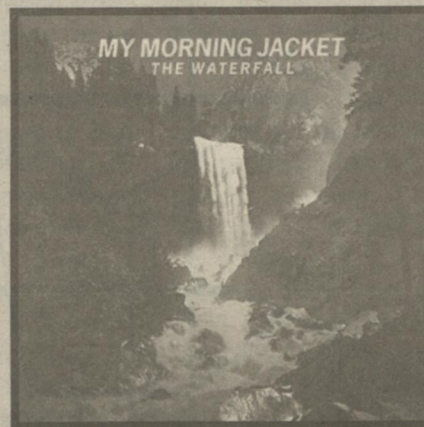
New albums this week: Editor's Picks



Tech N9ne
Special Effects



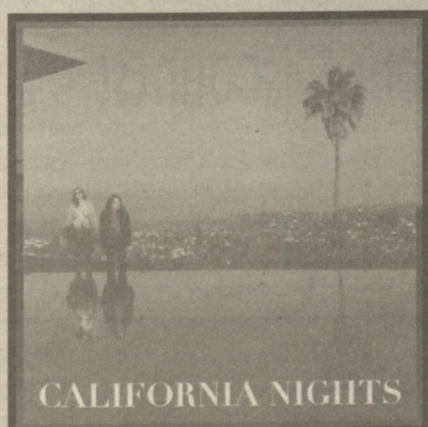
Pale Honey
Pale Honey



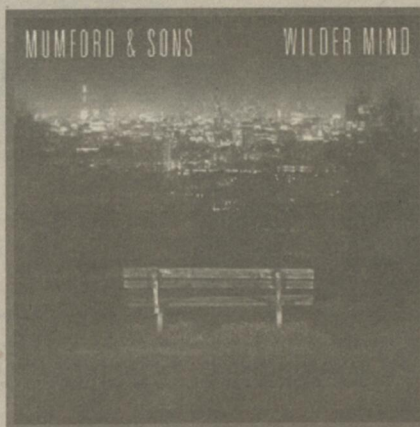
My Morning Jacket
The Waterfall



Metz
II



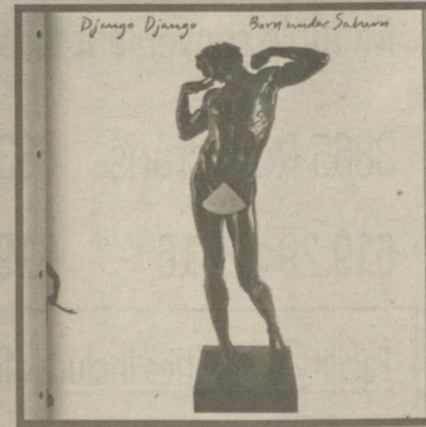
Best Coast
California Nights



Mumford and Sons
Wilder Mind



Hiatus Kaiyote
Choose your Weapon



Django Django
Born under Saturn

Photos Courtesy of Amazon

Events in San Diego: Bringing it home through finals

Take a break from the hectic studying for finals and check out a few of these events happening on campus and around the San Diego community!

7
AMBASSADOR GALA
KIPJ
7:00-9:00 P.M.
\$10

7-9
SHAWN WAYANS
AMERICAN COMEDY CO.
CHECK ONLINE FOR TIMES
\$22

7-10
BLUES & CRAWFISH
FESTIVAL
SPANISH LANDING PARK
10:30 A.M.-8:00 P.M.
CHECK ONLINE FOR PRICES

8
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
SHOWCASE
LOMA HALL
2:30-5:00 P.M.

9
GARDEN PARTY OF THE CENTURY
BALBOA PARK
EVENTS ALL DAY

12
TAKE A PAWS!
IMMACULATA LAWN
12:00-2:30 P.M.

13
THE WOMBATS
HOUSE OF BLUES
7 P.M.

17
PASSION PIT
THE OBSERVATORY: NORTH
PARK
8 P.M.

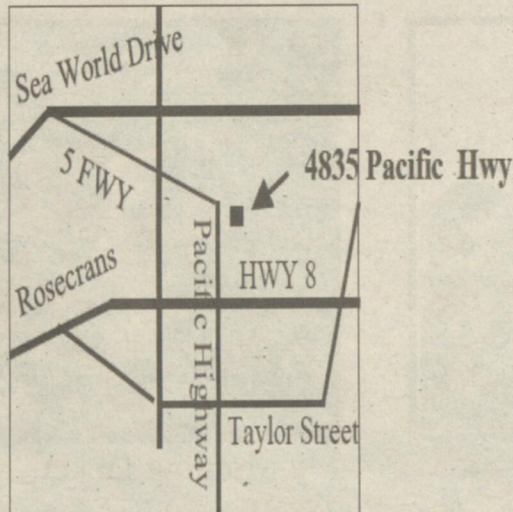
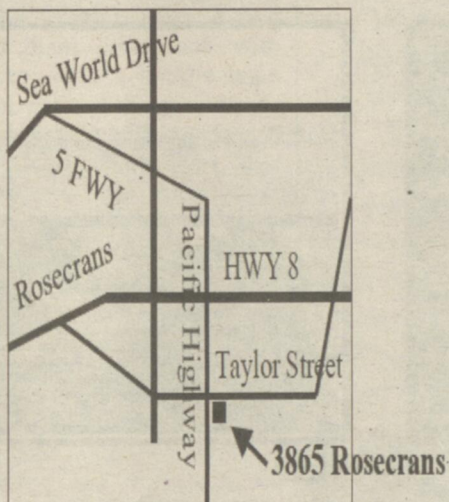
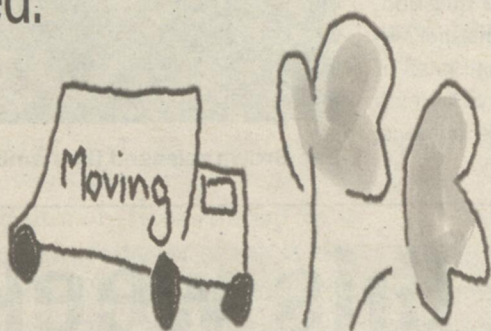
17
ESCONDIDO GRAND AVENUE
FESTIVAL
GRAND AVE. & ORANGE ST.
9:30-5:30 P.M.

20-23
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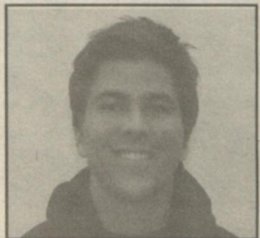
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* @ Pac Highway location only

SPORTS

SPORTS EDITOR
HUNTER JAMESON
@HJamoASST. SPORTS EDITOR
MATTHEW ROBERSON
@mroberson22

The Grand Finale

HUNTER JAMESON
SPORTS EDITOR
@HJamo

Whenever a professional athlete retires, I can always see the emotion across their face as they take the field or court for the last time.

I watched Derek Jeter run out to Shortstop at Yankee Stadium for the final time last year with tears in his eyes. Professional athletes are able to remain calm in even the most intense situations, but when their time comes to retire, it is obvious that their emotions are running rampant.

When you invest so much of yourself into one thing, such as a sport, it tends to be pretty traumatic when all it all comes to a close. While I will be returning to The Vista in a new role as Editor in Chief next year, I will definitely miss what brought me to the paper, sports.

I have been sports editor through some tough times in the world of sports, such as the NFL domestic, child, and substance abuse scandals. However, so much of my research and writing has been about the successes and triumphs of our USD athletes and professionals.

I watched USD defeat No. 1 USC in volleyball in Fall 2013, and the fans stormed the court to celebrate as Toreros. That story made the front page. I covered the opening series at Fowler Park in Spring 2013, which is one of the most beautiful college stadiums in the nation. Another highlight was when USD basketball defeated a highly ranked Gonzaga team last year, which earned national recognition.

While writing for The Vista is very time consuming, it has never really felt like a job for me because of how much I enjoyed it. I would be watching these games and researching statistics anyways, so I saw this job as more of a hobby. But with this being my last column as sports editor, I can't imagine what professional athletes feel like running onto the field for the final time after spending decades doing what they love most.

It always brings a smile to my face when a teacher or a friend says they read my column and enjoyed it. I have to say thank you to those who picked up The Vista and read my column, and hope I was able to entertain or educate you with the roughly 430 words that fit into this space. The future is very bright for the sports section, and I hope that you continue to read because there is so much happening every day in the world of sports.



Photo Courtesy of Ian Lituchy

The club baseball team enjoyed a successful season which included a conference championship and a trip to the Regional Playoffs.

USD club baseball loses in finals

Toreros travel to Utah for the championship

MATTHEW ROBERSON
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR
@mroberson22

For those who played sports in high school, but do not have the necessary skills to play for an NCAA team, one question always arises once they get to college. What do they do now? This is a question that thousands of high school athletes face every year. After countless hours of time and energy poured into the game they love, they must suddenly find a way to fill the void created by the completion of their high school athletic career.

This is where club baseball comes in to play. It serves as an organization which allows ball players to continue playing their beloved game while avoiding the stress and rigors that come with playing for an NCAA team. This opportunity is not taken for granted by the club's members. Junior pitcher Neil Bruner spoke about this idea.

"Club baseball means a lot to me," Bruner said. "As a pitcher who battled an elbow injury at a young age, club baseball has allowed me to keep playing baseball competitively in college, and I am extremely grateful for that."

The club also provides an opportunity for the players to travel to tournaments against powerful club teams from other

colleges. The team recently packed its bags and headed to Cedar City, Utah for the Regional Playoffs, an annual tournament showcasing some of the best teams in the National Club Baseball Association. The University of San Diego Toreros took second place in the tournament, losing in the finals to the Colorado School of Mines. Despite the disappointing result in the final, the players kept high spirits about the overall success they enjoyed this season. Senior Reid Wagner will cherish the memories forever.

"The memories of traveling around California, Arizona, and Utah with these guys are some of the very best times," Wagner said. "This is a group of 25 intelligent young men who have had a good time both on and off the field, and they do all this while creating an environment that is very welcoming to the younger players."

This year's roster featured seven freshmen, with hometowns ranging from Palm Springs, California to Walpole, Massachusetts. The team's official website makes their motives very clear, as the banner across the top of the page simply reads "For the Love of the Game."

As anyone who played baseball knows, that is a love that never goes away. Wagner, who also serves as club president,

noted that the love of baseball manifests itself into an incredible bond between members past and present.

"You know, you are a part of something special when USD club baseball alumni fly out each year to cheer us on," Wagner said. "I'm honestly just happy to be a part of a team like this."

This particular team had a very eventful year. Before traveling to Utah for the Regional Playoffs, they secured a second straight conference crown by sweeping a doubleheader on the road against St. Katherine College. They also used last year's early defeat at regionals as fuel for this year's tournament.

"After a disappointing end to regionals last year, losing our first two games and getting sent home, I wasn't ready to let that happen again," Bruner said. "I wanted to do everything in my power to help lead or team to the National Championship this year. Unfortunately we just fell one win short."

The club is entirely funded by students, and they are greatly benefited by any sort of donation. The team plays its home games at nearby venues, Kearny High School and Lincoln High School. Donations can be made on the club's website. The coach of the team, Josh Schroeder, is a graduate of the class of 2013 who stayed connected to the club for

a familiar reason, the love of the game.

Anyone else who shares this palpable love of the game can email usdtorerosbaseball@gmail.com to get information about joining the team next year.

Club Baseball Roster

Freshmen:

#4 Liam Kelliher
#5 Chase Doremus
#6 Noah Hilton
#19 Alec Weber
#20 Justin Braun
#22 Brandon Wong
#23 Will Knopka

Sophomores:

#8 Anton Myskiw
#9 Dalvin Martin
#14 Mike Halamek
#33 Ian Lituchy
#44 James Cho
#52 Jake Gray

Juniors:

#11 Aaron Rosipajla
#16 Scott Leer
#21 Ryan Pollock
#24 Neil Bruner

Seniors:

#3 Allan Kunst
#7 Jeff Cohen
#10 Reid Wagner
#12 Daniel Leon
#13 Patrick Morgan
#15 Sean Vogel

Chargers welcome new teammates

2015 NFL Draft results in potential superstars

NOAH HILTON
CONTRIBUTOR

Amidst the wild weekend affectionately termed "Sportsageddon" that included the boxing match of the century, a Red Sox-Yankees series, and the Kentucky Derby, the NFL Draft managed to squeeze into the headlines as well.

There was no shortage of drama provided by the event, with polarizing quarterback Jameis Winston going No. 1 overall to Tampa Bay, rumored blockbuster trades for the No. 2 overall pick that never quite came to fruition, and running backs being selected in the first round for the first time since 2012. Here in San Diego, the focus was on the Chargers' front office, who looked to rebound from a controversial offseason by bringing future stars into the organization.

The Chargers came into the draft as one of the speculative frontrunners for the Titans' #2 pick and the chance to draft Heisman Trophy winner Marcus Mariota. However, once the team made it clear that incumbent captain Philip Rivers would not be made available, trade talks quickly fell through.

Instead, San Diego opted to trade up two spots to the No. 15 pick in order to ensure a selection of star running back Melvin Gordon out of the University of Wisconsin. Gordon

was the Heisman Trophy runner-up in 2014, running for 2,587 yards — second-most all-time behind Barry Sanders — and 29 touchdowns. Gordon is known for his shiftiness in the open field and ability to break off big runs, but may struggle to beat faster NFL defenders to the corner.

The Chargers last used a first-round pick on a running back in 2010 when they selected Ryan Mathews, who struggled with injuries and fumbles during his time in San Diego. Given Gordon's similar ball-control issues and his heavy workload in college, fans have to be questioning this pick in spite of Gordon's all-world numbers.

In the second round, overlooking team needs on both the offensive and defensive lines, the Bolts drafted physical inside linebacker Denzel Perryman, who led the University of Miami in tackles last season with 110. Given his tendency for hard hits, Perryman will likely create some highlights in 2015, although he doesn't project as an immediate starter.

The Bolts' third-round selection went to Texas State cornerback Craig Mager. Mager was relatively unknown until a great performance at the NFL Combine revealed tremendous promise, which caught the Chargers' attention. Described by general manager Tom Telesco as being as raw as raw can be,

Mager will hopefully bring some depth to a Chargers secondary that was hurt in the past by injuries to Jason Verett and Brandon Flowers. Draft experts are questioning whether Mager will even be able to do that in the next couple of seasons given his need for extra development time.

The fifth round finally brought some cheers from Chargers fans, with the team filling a need for a pass-rusher by drafting outside linebacker Kyle Emanuel out of North Dakota State. Emanuel won the Buck Buchanan Award in 2014 as the best defensive player in the FCS with a dominant senior season that included 19.5 sacks. A projected third-rounder going into the draft, Emanuel appears to be a good value pick for the Chargers.

He showed good strength and burst in college, albeit against largely-inferior competition in the Missouri Valley Conference, with the only real knock on him being a lack of creativity in getting past offensive lineman. However, this is a flaw easily corrected by good coaching, making Emanuel a solid source of depth behind current starters Melvin Ingram and Jerry Attaochu.

San Diego closed out its draft with a sixth-round selection of Arkansas D-lineman Darius Philon. A former Alabama commit who ended up at



Photo Courtesy of Steve Schar/Flickr

Melvin Gordon had 45 rushing touchdowns while at Wisconsin.

Overall, the Chargers had a fascinating draft. Some question the team's decision not to address its weakness at offensive line, but many are also praising the Bolts for finding talent with every pick. Ultimately, the draft will hinge on the productivity of Gordon. If he performs right away, fans will certainly be pleased. If not, the Chargers will have fumbled a draft away yet again.

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Getting to know tennis star Ciaran Fitzgerald

Senior reflects on his time as a Torero

JACK MERCIA
CONTRIBUTOR

Ciaran Fitzgerald is a senior at the University of San Diego and a member of USD's Men's Tennis team. For Fitzgerald, tennis represents more than a hobby – it represents a lifelong passion.

"My first memories of me playing tennis was back in elementary school in a hall with plastic rackets and sponge balls," Fitzgerald said.

He first picked up the racket sport in his hometown of Greystones, Ireland and during his senior year in high school he traveled to USD as part of a recruitment trip and immediately loved what he saw.

"I really felt a great connection with the coaches and players during that time and I really wanted to be a part of that," Fitzgerald said.

In addition, USD offers year-round playing due to its excellent weather, which Fitzgerald notes was something he could never do back home in Ireland.

Fitzgerald says the strength of his team comes from its diverse roster. The team consists of eight

players from outside the United States, with players hailing from England, Cyprus, France, Serbia and other foreign lands.

"We are a charismatic bunch that are a really close team," Fitzgerald said. "There is never a dull moment spent with these guys."

As recent winners of the West

"We go through a lot of adversity together on and off the tennis court and having those guys there for you really matters."

- Ciaran Fitzgerald

Coast Conference Championship, Fitzgerald attributes the success to his passionate team and Coach Brett Masi. The 36 year-old Masi has led USD to three conference titles in six years.

"Coach Masi has engraved a culture of winning here at USD," Fitzgerald said.

Prior to Masi's arrival at USD, Pepperdine University had won the conference tournament for 19 straight years. Being the lone senior of USD men's tennis team, Fitzgerald couldn't be happier with his championship win.

Fitzgerald maintains that the success of his team is due to the camaraderie and unity of the players. For him, his team represents his family away from home.

"We go through a lot of adversity together on and off the tennis court and having those guys there for you really

matters," Fitzgerald said.

Beyond his involvement in tennis, Fitzgerald can be seen supporting USD's other sports teams through his friends and peers.

"I know how much hard work and dedication student athletes put into their sport," Fitzgerald said.

He hopes to see more Toreros supporting USD's athletic teams and other events.

After graduation, Fitzgerald wants to continue his involvement in tennis. Having worked the past two summers at a country club in New Canaan, Connecticut as a



Photo Courtesy of Ciaran Fitzgerald/Facebook

Fitzgerald was given a collection of photos from his time at USD.

coordinator for junior men's and women's programs, Fitzgerald considers that to be a possible career option in the future.

"I would love to continue being involved in college tennis and maybe even the possibility

of being an assistant coach at a university," Fitzgerald said.

Although Fitzgerald is deciding which path to take after graduation, he believes that he will not put down the racket anytime soon.

Q & A with football player Pono Keni

KELLY MCPHERSON
CONTRIBUTOR

This week we caught up with junior football player, Pono Keni. Pono is more driven than ever to train and find success before taking on cross town rivals, San Diego State University at the start of next season. He and the team are ready for a great 2015 season.

Number: 66

Position: Left tackle

Height/weight: 6'3" 285 lbs.

The Vista: How old were you when you started playing football?

Keni: I was 13 or 14 I believe.

TV: The football team already played their spring game. How did that go?

K: It was fun and exciting. It was a time where the freshman could show us what they got and it was one of the few times we could go full speed, tackling and hitting etc. And of course it's always nice to get back in the uniforms.

TV: How do you think the team is going to be in the fall?

K: I think we are going to be full of surprises. We may not have the talent that the previous years had, but we have some amazing play makers, we are a team of diverse talents, and when you put us on the field together, we make magic happen. I have high hopes for this upcoming season and know the guys to my left and right will produce.

TV: You guys are playing San Diego State next season, are you excited for that? What are you expecting out of that game?

K: We haven't played State since 1961. So we are all pretty excited, even more excited to be playing at Qualcomm Stadium. Some of us have never stepped foot in there. That game will probably be the most challenging game we will have all season, but we are ready for anything. We have been training harder than ever and I think with the right push, we will make sure State remembers who we are.

TV: What is your favorite thing about playing football?

K: The bond. There is no other bond that I can compare it to. You are devoting 40 hours a week to this team. The guys to your left and right go through hell and back for those 60 minutes of fame on the field. We bleed, cry, battle, and put our bodies on the line for each other and I don't know who else would do that for their teammates.

TV: As you head into your senior season, what are some goals you have both personally and for the team?

K: Personally I want to be around 300 lbs and be faster, stronger, and more agile than I am right now. I would love to play in the NFL so I have my work cut out for me over summer. Some of the goals we have as a team are to beat State of course, go undefeated, win the Pioneer Football League, and make it into playoffs again, but this time go a little farther.

TV: Give us three fun facts about you.

K: I love to dance during practice. I might be the only guy that can get away with it too.

I haven't cut my hair in close to 3 years.

I sound like the next American Idol when I perform in the shower.



Photo Courtesy of Pono Keni/Facebook

Keni (right) has his sights set on a tremendous senior season.

Track & Field athlete breaks USD record

Sophomore Andrea Hughes stamped her name in history

SHARON CHANG
CONTRIBUTOR

The University of San Diego's Track and Field team finished off the season with a change in the record books. Sophomore Andrea Hughes ran the race of her life at the University of California, San Diego Triton Invitational and broke USD's record in the 3 kilometer race. She finished in second place with a time of 10:02.48. It has been a successful season for Hughes, as five out of her six races resulted in personal bests.

Track and Field coach Will Guarino states that Hughes is growing everyday and will continue to show development.

"This is a sign of her ability to concentrate and also not to do anything, but squeeze as much energy out of every stride," Guarino said. "She is maturing and

race and past races was determined by preparation.

"Coach has been pushing a lot so I started pushing myself more," Hughes said. "The workout was harder than before, but the race showed me why it was worth it."

She calls herself a 5k runner, but initially this proved to be a negative because it slowed her down at first. Guarino's preparations allowed her to push harder than a 5k's typical routine. The new routines have already paid massive dividends for Hughes, who did not know that she broke the school record until the day after the race.

"I did not know I broke the record until Coach told me and when people complimented me," Hughes said. "Overall, it was really fun!"

Coach Guarino states Hughes showed teamwork as she



Photo Courtesy of USD Athletics

Andrea Hughes running in the 2014 Bronco Invite at Santa Clara.

a large pack of women that drive the intensity of training towards healthy and sustainable development patterns."

Hughes says that even though the season is concluding and she has already broken a record, she will continue to prepare for the upcoming season.

"There really is no break", Hughes said.

As long as she is running, she will always try to beat her personal record. She is a local from El Cajon, Calif. and started running during her freshman year at Valhalla High School.

She has had a passion for running and wanted to continue in college when USD coaches offered scholarships and a place

on the team. Coach Guarino has seen her blossom since her senior year of cross-country and has never been so proud.

"Much of the attributes towards her development hinge on her work ethic, her ability to grind out workouts, mental strength and her ability to believe in the execution of our training and racing plan," Guarino said.

Even though Hughes will finish her Track and Field career after her senior year of college, she will continue to run 5ks and try her best to break those records. For now, Hughes is focusing on her training for next season and is excited for what the future holds. Coach Guarino has enjoyed watching

her growth and will work on other elements to her running.

"I have enjoyed coaching her and getting to know her as a young athlete," Guarino said. "We had a great base year her freshman year, and now we are adding elements of chemistry that foster speed, sleep, endurance, confidence, trust and also fun."

Look for Hughes to continue leaving her mark on USD history, as the promising sophomore has two more years to insert her name into the school's record books.

The women's track and field team has one more race to close out the season, as they will head to Los Angeles on May 9 for the Occidental College Invitational.

"I did not know I broke the record until Coach told me and when people complimented me," Hughes said. "Overall it was really fun!"

developing nicely as a runner."

He has reason to be excited for the program's future, because Hughes is only a sophomore who will only continue to get better.

Hughes states that the difference between this

was running to break the record.

"The record is a mixture of the teamwork that many of her teammates have contributed," Guarino said. "Just as she has helped others get better, she has enjoyed the benefits of having

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To The Vista Staff 2014-2015:

I wanted to personally thank each editor that has been a part of The Vista this past year for their hard work and dedication to the job. The amount of hours spent in our office together in order to get the paper to print each week has been a lot, but thanks to this group of individuals we have been able to see The Vista improve throughout the year. We truly are our own Vista Family, and it makes me proud to see everything we have accomplished together. I have been a part of this staff since I was a freshman and it has been a privilege to see how much this paper has grown in my four years here at USD. I know that the incoming staff for the following year is in great hands, and The Vista is only going to keep improving. So to this staff, I say thanks for many great memories and for your diligence to your work and I hope that you will continue to excel in all that you do.

Sincerely,
Lauren Vujovich
Editor In Chief